**HOUSEHOLD RISKS**

Cover them by means of the "All-In" Policy which, for an inclusive premium of 5/- per £100 per annum (minimum premium 7/6), covers practically *every* serious risk to which the Householder is liable. A Special "All-In" Policy for Houseowners covers the building only for 1/6 per £100. Send postcard for full particulars of the many risks covered.

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Assets Exceed £15,000,000.

## A WORD ABOUT THE "J.B." PEN.

See Page 14.

# JOHN BULL

VOL. XXV. No. 664. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1919. TWOPENCE.

[*Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.*]

**Lipton's for QUALITY.**

The largest Tea Distributors, Manufacturers, and Retailers of Food Products in the World

Tea Merchants by Special Appointment to H.M. King George V.

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Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

# STILL FOOLED OVER FOOD.

BY HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

Mother won the First Prize of £10 in the

**B.D.V.**

SILK PICTURE CIGARETTE NEEDLEWORK COMPETITION.

Over **£10,000** has been given to date.

Save your Pictures & enter for a Prize.

Full particulars from
GODFREY PHILLIPS, Ltd.,
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"Jack's coming home to-night"

Let's give him a warm welcome with Rowntree's Elect Cocoa

**LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK LIMITED.**

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

| | |
|---|---|
| Subscribed Capital | £34,478,645 |
| Uncalled Capital | 27,286,250 |
| Paid-up Capital and Reserve Fund | 14,345,395 |
| Deposits | £234,886,435 |
| Cash in hand and at Bank of England | 62,786,371 |
| Money at Call and at Short Notice | 65,809,188 |
| Investments | 61,606,657 |
| Bills of Exchange | 29,249,296 |
| Advances on Current and other Accounts | 99,213,614 |
| Advances on War Loans | 14,218,201 |

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

# £200 IN CASH

OFFERED WEEKLY BY
"IDEAS"
FOR

# LIMERICKS

**First Prize, £100; Second Prize, £25; Third Prize, £10.**

**20 Prizes of £1 each; 80 Prizes of 5/- each; and 200 Prizes of 2/6 each.**

Full particulars appear in IDEAS, in which two coupons are given every week. By a special arrangement you may, this week, commence by cutting out and using the following coupon:—

**COUPON**

There was a young housemaid called Kate,
Who refused to work early and late.
She said, "I'm no slave
"To be worked to my grave

I enter LIMERICKS Competition in accordance with the rules announced, and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding.

*Name*.....

*Address*.....

**Limerick No. 3 Closing THURSDAY, Feb. 27, 1919. No. of P.O.....**

**P.O. for Sixpence must accompany this Coupon. "JOHN BULL."**

**READ THE RULES CAREFULLY.**

Not more than one Limerick must be on one coupon, and each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d., made payable to *IDEAS*, and crossed "/ and Co.," If more than one coupon is sent, one Postal Order for the full amount should be enclosed.

**Coupons must not be mutilated in any way, or have anything affixed.**

Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the Postal Order. Friends may send as many coupons as they please in one envelope, provided sufficient postage is attached. Envelopes must be marked "Limerick No. 3," in the top left-hand corner, and addressed *IDEAS*, Huntsman's Court, Manchester.

**Limerick Coupons must not be enclosed with Coupons for other Competitions announced in this paper. All entries must reach this Office not later than THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1919.**

**Don't wait, but send in your Coupons now.**

The Editor undertakes that all Limericks received shall have careful consideration, and the prizes awarded according to his opinion of their merit, but his decision as to the prize-winners and all questions relating to this Competition is absolutely final and legally binding, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

The Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost, delayed, or mislaid. The published decision may be amended by the Editor as the result of successful scrutinies. In the event of two or more competitors sending in the same winning Limerick, the prizes will be divided.

Employees of E. Hulton and Co., Ltd., are not allowed to compete.

No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition. **The result of this Competition will be announced in IDEAS on sale MARCH 12.**

*CRAYOL CIGARETTE CARTOON—No. 1.*

*The soldier awaiting demobilisation*
*Is apt to develop acute irritation*
*At finding no possible hope of escape*
*From entanglements made of official red tape;*
*But a packet of CRAYOLS will banish his worry,*
*And he'll beg of his adjutant, "Pray do not hurry!"*

# CRAYOL

**VIRGINIA CIGARETTES**

**The only match for a CRAYOL is the one you light it with.**

*Those who like a cigarette made of Oriental tobaccos should also try "KARAM," 10 for 6½d.; 20 for 1s. 1d.*

**20 for 10½d.**
**10 for 5½d.**

P.C.B.—37

# CHILBLAINS POSITIVELY CURED.

**GRASSHOPPER OINTMENT DRAWS OUT THE ITCHING PAIN AND INFLAMMATION WITH AN EFFECTIVENESS UNEQUALLED BY ANY OTHER PREPARATION.**

Do not poultice your chilblains. **Grasshopper Ointment** draws out the inflammation as easily as a sponge absorbs water. Just try a box and see if it does not do so in your case. **Grasshopper** is as harmless as it is beneficial. It contains absolutely no injurious substances. May be obtained from Boots, Timothy White's, Taylor's Drug Co., and all Chemists and Stores, at 1/3 a box, or direct, post free, from
Albert & Co., 73, Farringdon Street, London, E.C. 4.

**THE "JOHN BULL" GUARANTEE.**

*We guarantee the goods advertised by every firm whose trade announcement appears in* John Bull, *i.e., we hold ourselves responsible for their being of the quality and standard represented at the time of purchase and the date of payment, either in full or of first instalment, and if any reader can show just cause for dissatisfaction with the purchase of any goods made through our trade announcement in our columns, we will refund the purchase money, provided the goods complained of are sent to us within one week from the date of original purchase. All communications should be addressed to* John Bull, *Advertisement Department, 63, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.*

*Fill up your Free Fire Insurance forms—see page 16.*

# JOHN BULL

*The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.*

*Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:*
*Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.*

Come the three corners of the world in arms,
And we shall shock them.

Naught shall make us rue,
If Britain to itself do rest but true.

**Vol. XXV. No. 664.** **Week ending Saturday, February 22nd, 1919.** **Twopence.**


## "THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

*[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]*

**Our Seat.**

We think that, by the amenities of the House, we have now established our right to that coveted seat next to the gangway on the Opposition Benches, but at the same time we constantly find ourselves casting a reminiscent glance at our old corner over the way.

**Thanks.**

We have been snowed under with congratulations on our first speech in the new Parliament—some of them coming from the most unexpected sources. We must try to deserve them.

**Lonely Mr. Hughes.**

We understand that Mr. Hughes, the Australian Premier, finds himself in a very lonely and aloof situation at the Peace Conference. We shall hear more of Mr. Hughes shortly.

**Watch America!**

Be prepared for some interesting developments when Mr. Wilson gets back home.

**Lord Reading.**

We hope it is true that the Lord Chief Justice has had enough of politics and will return to the Bench at Easter. Big judicial problems are looming on the horizon.

**Montenegro.**

At last the claims of this patriotic little State appear to be coming to the front. We are afraid, however, she is destined to be swallowed up by Serbia. Meantime, whilst we are sending food to Germany, her people are on the borders of starvation.

**Here They Come.**

We hear on fairly good authority that the *Lapland* recently brought over fifty Germans from America, some of whom on landing were heard to express their satisfaction that they were once again free to speak their own language. We should like to see the ship's passenger list.

**"My Hat!"**

According to the *Liverpool Daily Post*, the American representatives who had taken up their positions in the Mall, to witness the King's procession to Parliament, "suddenly had their appetites whetted by the information that the uncrowned ruler of England was approaching, and they all turned towards the gravel path to behold a very stout gentleman in a very shiny top-hat, who was making his way to the House of Commons, where he hopes to find a Business Government." We must have that hat seen to!

**Clemenceau's Prophecy.**

"The Peace may take more winning than the war." That old man knew something!

**The Prime Minister.**

We have never seen the Premier in better health and spirits. In a chat we had with him the other day we found him bubbling over with exuberance. We think we must take up golf.

**A Conundrum.**

Here's a rude conundrum from one of our readers: Why is President Wilson like the Devil?—Because he wants to give away all the kingdoms of the world—not being his.

**Doncaster Races.**

We observe that certain cranks on the Doncaster Town Council recently proposed that the famous racecourse should be closed up. We shall have the Dundee Council being asked to prohibit the manufacture of marmalade next.

**On the List!**

One of our readers who was on board the P. & O. liner *Persia* when she was torpedoed, and who saw many women and children drowned, wishes to know whether the Government have on their list of culprits to be tried the Captain of the German submarine responsible for the crime.

**Pity the Poor Publican!**

We understand there are as many as 84 different gravities and prices specified in the new Beer Order. Add these to the hundred offences which any careless licensed victualler is liable to commit, by either himself or his servant, and it will be seen that the life of the publican is not a happy one. Boniface, however, is a docile and long-suffering fellow.

**If *they* Struck!**

Whilst various sections of the industrial world are freely resorting to the Strike weapon, we wonder what would happen if the great middle-classes "downed tools"—and the same remark applies to the newsagents throughout the Kingdom, who just now are being very cruelly oppressed by the regulations of the Paper Controller.

**The Old Testament.**

What a change is coming over the mind of the Church in regard to some of the oriental allegories of the Bible! Here we have the Dean of Lincoln telling Convocation that he "simply does not believe the stories of Eden and the Flood" Seventy years ago, George Jacob Holyoake went to prison for milder "blasphemy" than that!

**In the House.**

On another page we give a summary of our first week's work in Parliament. We have certainly been fortunate in our start.

**"P. B."**

We fancy that the new Parliament will hear a good deal of Mr. Pemberton Billing. In our view he was always "a good horse," but he lacked proper training and "placing."

**Never to Part.**

They have a saying in France that we always return to our first love. And so it would seem is the case of Mr. Clynes, who, we understand, still has an office and two secretaries at the Ministry of Food. What is the explanation?

**A Sinister Fact.**

Surely it is significent that our principal champions of the League of Nations, outside official circles, are Mr. Asquith, Mr. Runciman, Mr. McKenna, Sir John Simon, Sir J. W. Dickinson, Mr. Henderson and Mr. Ramsay Macdonald—all defeated at the Election!

**The *Daily News* and Us.**

Our dear brother-in-ink, Mr. A. G. Gardiner, Editor of the *Daily News*, in his weekly article says, we were "the man who touched the great heart of Parliament," and that we were also the man "who reflected its feeling about the Hun and the fulfilment of every election promise in regard to Indemnities." We desire no greater compliment.

**A Candid Cleric.**

The Vicar of Great Ness, which is near Shrewsbury, is an unconventional cleric. He recently took as his text "Bottomley's New Religion," and, according to his Parish Magazine, "people came from all parts to hear the sermon." Now he tells us that the National Mission of Repentance and Hope, "made palatable with a powerful infusion of the mild and more respectable repentance of archbishops, bishops, clergy, and all the Saints, was a fiasco. . . . The multitudes did not like the smell of it." Now if *we* had said that!

**More Clerical Compliment.**

Thus, on ourselves, the Rev. Bruce Cornford, Vicar of St. Matthew, Portsmouth: "Some of his work during the war has been extraordinarily fine and productive. Hundreds of thousands of English people take him as their intellectual leader every week. He is as clever as they make 'em. And yet——." Oh, those "yets"!

**Ellen Sullivan.**

Letters of protest and sympathy continue to reach us in hundreds concerning the scandalous tragedy of Ellen Sullivan's death in childbirth, in Holloway Prison. We cordially endorse the strong comments of the crew of H.M.S. *Rightwale*, and of the lads of the 76th Brigade, who head their unanimously signed letter, "From the Watchers on the Rhine." Our correspondents may rest assured that the scandal will be fully exposed in Parliament.

**The Darkened Way.**

With all our heart we sympathise with Viscount Grey, the ex-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in the affliction which has come his way. Happily the first newspaper report that he is completely blind is not true. His sight is not wholly lost. He can find his way about. For the rest, the Braille type which he is learning to read will give eyes to his fingers and such comfort to his mind as comfort in conditions so distressing can be.

**Sending it Abroad.**

There is no blinking the fact that the trouble on the Clyde, before it assumed such serious proportions, was concerned with the export of whisky. The dockers for two weeks refused to load ships with endless cases of whisky when there were "no spirits" for their own refreshment ashore. That was the beginning of much, and the protest was a very natural one. And they are Pharisees in control who would dole out doctored drops of spirits at home in the name of righteousness, and yet send proof stuff by the shipload for sale abroad.

**So Sorry!**

If you are a tradesman down Rawtenstall way, and you allow your greed to run away with your gumption, there is not the least need to worry. All you have to do is to apologise, and go straight on as though nothing had happened. "I do hereby apologise," runs a recent Press advertisement by a local grocer, "to the Rawtenstall Food Control Committee for having received more than the controlled price for apples, and I agree to pay the cost of this advertisement." No doubt the apology came a lot cheaper than the apples.

**The Inquiring Mind.**

Though it may be necessary for a Pensions Officer to poke his nose into many corners nobody else would trouble about, it is not obvious why Mr. Rowlatt, Pensions Officer in the Edgware Road district, demands that persons making application for Old Age Pension should "State where you were living in March, 1851, and who was the head of your household at that date." The old lady in the case was a mere baby in 1851, and probably remembers about as little of that time as Mr. Rowlatt remembers of his great grandmother.

**Cheaper Holiday Travel.**

In the absence of a thundering row beforehand, it is not probable that there will be any reduction in railway fares until the Government have completed the arrangements for the nationalisation of the railways. Writing from Earlstown in Lancashire, a reader suggests that during the forthcoming holiday season each town should be allotted its two or three weeks of cheaper travel to and from recognised holiday resorts. It is, however, as difficult to make the Government disgorge their ill-gotten gains on the railways as it is to get butter out of a dog's throat.

**Property before Men.**

The Port Authorities who salvaged the *Iris*—wrecked off Guernsey on Dec. 19—might have taken some pains to find out what had happened to the crew. One member of it, —Manning, the mate—was washed ashore and starved to death on a barren islet not far away. He must have taken about three weeks to die. Think of it! He has left a wife and three children unprovided for.

**Spruce!**

During the war the Government bought spruce in British Columbia, and paid for it. Some of the details are now coming to light, and, as we read the figures, nearly two hundred times as much was obtained for the stuff as it could have been got for prior to the war—which, on a steady market, was quite good business. No wonder these fat spruce merchants are rubbing their hands. If we had our way, they would be wringing them.

**Less Work for Wives.**

There is a lot to be said for the contention of the Rev. F. H. Gillingham, Rector of Bermondsey, that if the working man obtains six hours a day, time for meals, and no work Sundays, his missus should have the same; 7 o'clock in the morning till 10 o'clock at night, the majority of wives in these days have about the hardest jobs going. Why don't they strike for shorter hours, fair wages, regular pocket money, and a sixpenny tram-ride every Sunday? We should, if we were one.

**A Pestilential Parasite.**

It is difficult to write with restraint of such a man as Thomas Alfred Maddocks, a Liverpool grocer and provision dealer. Here is a human parasite, who profiteers the profits of his controlled goods with an audacity of range which almost takes one's breath away—bacon, ham, eggs, margarine, sausages; nothing daunted his enterprising cupidity. The extent of his offences is to be measured by the fines inflicted on him—£330; the measure of his guilt would have been more just if he had been sentenced to six months' hard labour.

**A Maleficent Mother.**

Nobody will waste any sympathy on that brutal mother, Sarah Brockie, of Reston. Before the Sheriff at Berwick it was proved that she had beaten her ten-year-old son with a leather belt, a broom, and a poker, and turned him out of the house naked on a bitter winter's night. There is something inhuman in the malevolence of such a mother; in fact, all sense of motherhood is absent. She deserves every hour of her six months' hard labour. But is the little victim to be returned to her "care" after her release?

**A Shameless Salary.**

The Ministry of Labour requires a Manager for a Branch Office at Somercoats. The lucky man must provide the office. His duties will be to register demobilised men, find them work, and pay them unemployment money; to issue Unemployment Books to all workers and pay out benefits to the insured and others as necessary; to run the Labour Exchange, and to do "other things." The "remuneration" is £5 per annum, with an extra payment at the rate of £10 a year up to the middle of July. The Ministry says the work need not occupy all the Manager's time—but, even so, we wonder what the deuce he will have to live on.

**Trouble Looming.**

Our compliments to the Salford Guardians, and will they please get a move on them? Not only do they refuse to pay their staff on the Treasury scale, but they decline to refer the question for arbitration by the Ministry of Labour—or, in fact, to do anything but sit close and hold tight. Meanwhile, some of the staff are receiving small bonuses and others are not, which looks like favouritism. If this sort of thing goes on, there will be a rumpus soon.

**Helping the Sweater.**

The ex-munition girls are not being treated fairly. If they refuse a job offered by a Labour Exchange they lose their allowance. And this is the sort of job sometimes offered them: 10 girls as gravediggers, at 10s. per week; 15 girls as rag-sorters, at 10s. per week; wood-choppers, at 10s. a week; domestic servants, at 9s. a week. This is about the best means of helping the sweater yet invented.

**Enemy Commerce.**

In reply to anxious pro-German inquiries, we beg to state that the Huns are picking up nicely. A recent issue of the Swiss journal, the *Neue Zurcher Zeitung*, though otherwise printed in German, contains two advertisements *in English*, by German firms anxious to re-establish trade connections with Great Britain and the United States. Are the Hun bagmen to be put in their place without loss of time? A clear statement of the Government's commercial policy is long overdue.

**Queer Business.**

A blind man, living near Cardiff, went to work on an allotment, and thought it would be nice to have a hut for meals and to keep his tools in. Accordingly he sent £9 to Mr. A. Brodrick, South Western Appliance Company, Putney, S.W., who advertises all manner of portable contraptions—but the hut did not arrive, nor did the money come home again. The only way the blind man could get satisfaction was to put Brodrick into the County Court, when he paid up like the sly customer he is. There are nasty names for such things.

**The Penalty for Thrift.**

A Sheffield man, 45 years on the railway at 30s. a week, had saved £90 by the time he was seventy. At that age the Local Pensions Committee granted him full pension of 5s. a week, and hoped he would live long to enjoy it. But the Pensions Officer took care that he did not enjoy it at all. He said the £90 ought to be producing 5 per cent., and that the old fellow's allotment should bring him in 1s. a week. So he persuaded the L. G. B. to reduce the veteran's 5s. to 4s. No doubt the Officer's argument is strictly legal, but it is rough on the old and thrifty.

**"Snoresome, London."**

During "Gratitude Week" the scholars of Beetley School, in Norfolk, collected subscriptions for the King's Fund, and on 17th January the Headmaster posted a cheque for £1 9s. 2d. to the Ministry of Pensions, crossed and made payable to the King's Fund "as per instructions received from the Ministry." No acknowledgment having been made by the 28th, a letter was written calling attention to the omission. On 5th February, the sender of the cheque was still without a reply, and one wonders whether the official who received the cheque immediately went to sleep and has not awakened since.

**Bread.**

It is written that man cannot live by bread alone, but bakers manage to do it, and in most people's experience do it very well. Yet they have been clamouring—we are speaking of the master bakers now—through their trade association for an increase in the price of bread or a decrease in the price of flour. The Food Controller tells them he does not consider they have made out a case. The bread subsidy is big enough and the price of the loaf is high enough. The next adjustment in the oven ought to be down, not up.

**Churls.**

In Manchester, and in some other cities, a few convalescent officers entered engineering establishments for the study of motor-engineering, with a view to starting in that business, their wounds incapacitating them for their original professions. They have been obliged to leave because, on the hat of the Shop Stewards, workmen refused to show or teach them anything. Ingratitude could scarcely go further, even among stay-at-homes, who have the added impudence to insist that the officers should start as apprentices. The Trade Unions are not to blame for this churlishness.

**Cruelty in Cattle Markets.**

Mr. F. A. Cox, Secretary of the National Equine Defence League, is quite right in what he says in a letter to one of our lady readers. She describes the cruelty practised upon and endured by animals at the Islington Cattle Market, and Mr. Cox replies that what occurs there is common "all over London and the country generally." If the cruelty is to be stopped, members of the public must not be complainants only; they must be prepared to go to Court as witnesses, and be armed with convincing testimony. At the same time, it is perhaps a question whether the Inspectors of Prevention of Cruelty Societies are as observant and energetic as they ought to be.

**Nothing Like Leather.**

The fact is not to be shirked that there are a large number of employers up and down the country who put all sorts of difficulties in the way of reinstating the boys come home again. To do them justice, the Northampton manufacturers are not built that way. The labour of women is displaced as men become available. If a man steps into a job which a soldier had before the war, he agrees to step out when the soldier returns. In cases where an individual employer is, through special circumstances, unable to reinstate a man, a joint committee of the Men's Union and the Masters' Society meet to consider the particular case and work together to find him a place. It is a right human scheme.

**Pity the Blind.**

Pitiful is the hungry eagerness with which the blinded civilian contemplates the work done at St. Dunstan's for the blinded fighting man. It is not jealousy, but just a deep, envying hope that one day soon the sightless man who has not fought—aye, and the sightless woman, too—may be enabled to procure some of the blessed aid rendered to their brothers who bore arms. St. Dunstan's has achieved things previously undreamed of; the blind folk of the streets or hidden at home pray that the dream may come true in their case also!

**As Clear As Mud.**

Like all the other Orders issued from the Food Control, the new Beer Prices Order, is about as clear as mud. The man who thinks he is getting better beer at 8d. a pint will probably find that his brew is so mixed with threepenny, flavoured with fourpenny, dashed with fivepenny, tinctured with sixpenny and coloured with sevenpenny that 'e dunno where 'e are. Probably, as ignorant of gravity as a stray cat, he will have to trust to Providence, or somebody, as usual. Let him drink with confidence, anyhow—for the benefit of the shareholders in the waterworks.

**The Brokers.**

It is pointed out to us that the poor prices obtained at the auction of the dismantled shell factory at Washwood Heath, Birmingham, was probably due to the large number of machine brokers present arranging the prices to suit their own books. One hears, for instance, of a shell-banding machine, costing £420, being sold for £10, and of "other machines mostly sold at scrap prices." This, of course, is what will have to be faced whenever munitions machinery and surplus military stores are put up for public auction. The Government would probably do much better to advertise them for sale by private tender.

**Very Seeley Indeed.**

The Rev. Wm. Seeley, of Seeton Church, Keighley, seems a difficult man to get on with. When he came to the parish he wanted to introduce a set of Prussian rules for the controlling of children attending the Sunday School. So, by arrangement, he voluntarily kept out of the school for two years and left the management to a Teachers' Committee. Now, on account of the school being let on one week-night for a political meeting, he has butted in, and the Bishop advises that one or the other party should resign. Seeley won't, so the teachers have. He has also killed the Church Lads' Brigade by "suspending it and winding up its affairs." Pity Seeton can't do the same with Seeley!

**Supposition.**

"At Canada House, India House, and Empire House in Kingsway, there are about a hundred women employed as cleaners for the Board of Trade; about half are widows. Last July they were supposed to have a bonus, but they haven't got it. Needless to say they are "very disappointed," as they "expected to receive over £5." Now "there is a rumour" that they are to have nothing!

**Tommy and the Tombola.**

Pertinent questions are being asked in Liverpool as to when the Tombola Fund of £60,000 raised in that city on behalf of Liverpudlian prisoners of war is going to benefit those for whom it was intended. Patriotic funds are very excellent things, no doubt, but the majority of them seem to suffer from the same defect—namely, a reluctance to get themselves distributed in the right hands at the right time. Practically the whole of Liverpool's prisoners of war have now returned and "the smallest contribution will be thankfully received."

**"Trading with the Enemy."**

Complaint is made to us that "there is a German internment camp at Holloway which is doing a large business with British people." One incident as revealed. A woman who has lost her brother in the war "had so little patriotism and was so cold in family affection" that she had a costume made there, for which she paid two guineas, her excuse being that "you get a better cut there, and the poor fellows must live." It is natural enough to protest against patronising the Huns in our midst; but, if they don't work for their living while in our midst, the British taxpayer will have to keep them for nothing. The real solution of the difficulty is to send them back to Hunland.

**"The Hidden Hand" Film.**

This famous and instructive film may be seen this week at Wimbledon, Apollo Cinema; Oxford, Oxford Cinema Theatre; High Wycombe, Grand Cinema; Middleton, Empire; Ancoats, Butler Street Electric; Kinmel, Saronie's Pictures; Rhyl, Super Cinema; Prestatyn, Town Hall; Stockport, Alexandra Cinema; Leigh, Bijou Cinema; Helensburgh, Picture House; Beith, Picturedrome; and next week at Romford, Sinclair Cinema; Stockport, Brinksway Pictorium; Tyldesley, Miners' Hall; Armadale, Star.

**Why Not You?**

If you want £500 for three or four words, send us a "Bullet" this week. A happy inspiration may win you this handsome prize.

## "JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

The Bolshevik striker, Society's dregs,
Menaces the Goose that supplies golden eggs.

The U.S.A. President, blind to reality,
Provides for the Germans good cause for hilarity.

It rests with Lloyd George whether we shall be free
From the alien scoundrels who affront you and me.

"On with the dance!" is the motto to-day,
And though gloomy the outlook, all classes seem gay.

# Candid Communications.

*This space is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties and occasionally Nonentities.*

**To W. Bromfield, Esq., M.P., Leek.**

DEAR MR. BROMFIELD,—Next time you see me in the House, will you say if there is any truth in the report which reaches me to the effect that, as Agent for the Silkworkers' Union, you are insisting upon the closing down of the Red Cross Hospital, belonging to the Union, in order that it may be converted into a club, turning out the patients, who are mostly local lads? I cannot quite believe the story. JOHN BULL.

**To Alderman C. Clements, Chairman, Charity Trustees, Henley.**

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN,—Why all this sentimental tenderness for the progeny of the Hun? What is there in charity and justice which demands, with a hellish war not yet off our hands, that Miss Scherwerka, the daughter of an unnaturalised Austrian who has been interned, should receive from the Trustees a grant of £5 to enable her to matriculate at a British university? One of your members, a Mr. Dee, actually defended the grant on the ground that it would create "what we should all like to see—equality of opportunity." What a lot of timber there is under some people's hats!

JOHN BULL.

**To Councillor Walter Thomas Sutton, Hexthorpe.**

SIR,—Notwithstanding the abominable milk swindle of which you have been convicted and fined for by the Doncaster Magistrates, I am told it is not your intention to resign your position as a Town Councillor and member of the Public Health Committee. Only a day or two ago you were shrieking from the hoardings "Vote for Sutton, the Children's Friend!" and now you are caught watering your milk to such an extent that the Medical Officer describes the deficiency as the worst he has ever known, and declares that a child dependent on the stuff you sold would die of slow starvation. So you had better get out of the Council, and get out quick. JOHN BULL.

**To Mr. E. Schulbe, Withington, Manchester.**

DEAR DOUGH-PUNCHER,—I notice that you are advertising in the *British Baker* for an "Apprentice (male) to highclass confectionery and catering; thorough training guaranteed, under personal tuition; indentures three years, no premium, live out." I think you might also undertake to train the young idea in the gentle art of getting something for nothing, of which you obviously are a past-master. I don't suppose for one moment there will be a rush for the opportunity; for, between you and me, at this time o' day your name is likely to act as a deterrent. JOHN BULL.

**To Norman Dean, Esq., President, Duddeston and Nechells Tenants' Association.**

DEAR SIR,—You have been made President of an Association formed to defend the rights of tenants. To know that there are a thousand houses in Birmingham with ten persons eating, drinking and sleeping in the same room is to realise the need for reform and to appreciate the disgraceful dilatoriness of the Corporation. It is useless to talk of making this country "fit for heroes to live in" so long as thousands are herded together in such insanitary conditions. God speed you in your work! Rely on my support. JOHN BULL.

**To Lieut.-Colonel Seymour Bullock, U.S.A.**

DEAR COLONEL,—Spouting pumpuritan hogwash at Aberdeen recently, you are reported to have said that if Uncle Sam started for the markets of the world sober and John Bull drunk, Uncle Sam would capture them. Let me remind you that the British were not too drunk to take up instantly the insolent challenge of the Germans, and are not too drunk to resist President Wilson's efforts to deprive them of their inalienable right to the sovereignty of the seas. Neither, believe me, will they be found too drunk to secure their fair share of the world's trade. JOHN BULL.

**To Mr. John Clifford, Secretary, Provident Friends' Sick and Burial Friendly Society.**

SIR,—I am afraid your Society is a lot less "friendly" than it looks. Those of your members who joined the Army were allowed to retain their membership by paying one-third of their contributions. The Society has, however, amended its Rules, so that members discharged from the Army with a pension are robbed entirely of their right to sick benefit. In plain terms, it is exploiting the Army pensions for the advantage of the Society's funds. A dirty business. JOHN BULL.

**To C. Luxmoor Drew, Esq., West London Coroner.**

SIR,—At a Marylebone inquest over which you presided it was stated that a man named Henry Parker, having met with an injury at his work, was taken to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where he received some surgical attention. According to the relatives' account, he was sent away from the Hospital in a semi-conscious condition, to struggle as best he could to his home in the Edgware Road. In view of this very grave charge, I must confess my surprise that no doctor from St. Bartholomew's attended the inquiry. Can you explain? JOHN BULL.

**To the Right Hon. Walter Long, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty.**

DEAR MR. LONG,—What's doing now aboard His Majesty's Hospital Ship *Agadir*, stationed at Scapa Flow? With a hospital capacity for 156 patients, with a full complement in medical and nursing staff, and chartered at a cost of probably not much less than £30,000 a year, it takes none except infectious cases—and for many years has had but a few of these. I cannot believe it is necessary to squander all this money on a ship which could be doing more useful work as a cargo or passenger boat. Is it not possible to have the *Agadir's* few infectious cases treated ashore?

JOHN BULL.

## MILK AND MUCK.

### AN ABOMINABLE STATE OF THINGS.

Farmer Frampton's cows have been rolling in dung at Upper and Middle Old Park, Farnham, for quite a long time—so long that they cannot be groomed. On 22nd January the Medical Officer, Dr. Tanner, reported that the whole place was in a filthy condition; that the cows were kept tied up day and night; that when they lay down they must lie in dung, and in fact were covered with it; and that "there is a large accumulation of manure just outside the place where milk is cooled." Frampton's abomination had been before the Council some months previously. Unless the Local Government Board steps in it may, and probably will, continue for months or years to come. For clearly this man Frampton does not care a jot about the public health, the comfort of his cows, or a clean milk supply. That so filthy a farmer, producing and distributing milk for public consumption over a wide area, should be permitted to carry on his nauseating business for a moment longer than power can be applied to stop it, is a scandal which no words can be too strong to stigmatise. All the milk of this man's farms, so we understand, goes to a certain Dairy Company, which supplies the local demand. In addition to its public service, it supplies milk to several large military hospitals in the district. Frampton, according to the Sanitary Inspector, is "trying to arrange something." Possibly he is, if he must. Our feeling and conviction is that meanwhile something ought to be arranged for him. A man like this ought not to be allowed to have any part in this country's milk supply.

## WORRIES OF WAR NURSES.

### FRIVOLOUS REFUSAL OF WELL-WON BONUS.

Nursing sisters and V.A.D.s are "fed up." One of the causes is the inconsiderate conduct of many R.A.M.C. Orderlies. A large number of infantrymen marked C3 in 1916, were given safe and easy jobs at home in various hospitals, and were glad to get them. Now, however, that the Armistice is in operation, these men are clamouring to return to their units, and mark their discontent in many instances by flatly refusing to perform their daily duties. Thus twelve and even thirteen hours continuous night duty is no uncommon thing for the nurses to be called upon to perform. And they invariably meet the demand with a loyalty that puts to shame the loud-mouthed claimants for an eight, or even six, hours day. Another question is the official position of V.A.D.s with respect to the War Bonus. A case has been brought to our notice in which the Horton (County of London) War Hospital, Epsom, refused the War Bonus to one of its late nurses in the following curt terms:—

> I have to inform you that having voluntarily resigned your post at this hospital you forfeit the right to any claim to War Bonus in respect of services rendered during the time you were attached to the staff.

If this nurse had been dismissed in disgrace, or for incompetency, instead of leaving to continue her merciful work in a London hospital, the chances are she would have received the bonus to which she is morally entitled. The whole status of our War Nurses, volunteer and professional, demands readjustment and a clear pronouncement.

## THE "DOUBLE EVENT."

### TWO FINE WAYS OF LOSING MONEY.

The address of the Collins' Syndicate, 24 and 26, Bishop's Road, Fulham, S.W., has an air of high respectability, but to live next door to a Bishop's Palace is not always the sign of a blameless life. Frankly, we do not like the business of the Collins' Syndicate. The proprietor of this concern is Mr. H. S. Thompson, who has two pet schemes for parting fools and their money. In the first place, with an eye upon disabled soldiers who find it necessary to eke out their pensions, he offers initiation into "an Honourable and Profitable New Profession which will at once enable you to earn in your spare time, without interference with your present occupation, real good money averaging from £3 to £8 weekly." As to the nature of the employment to be taught, no information is given beyond the very unsatisfactory statement that the work is to be that of a "Private Mercantile Agent and Reporter," and on the strength of this bald intimation the guileless applicant is expected to part with £6 6s. for "Personal Lessons and Full Course of Instructions." The second rôle in which Mr. H. S. Thompson, alias the Collins' Syndicate, figures, is that of a racing tipster with an infallible system for "spotting all the winners." As far as we can make out, the only certain winner under this precious scheme is Mr. Thompson himself, who again requires £6 6s. in advance before he will part with his infallible recipe for success at betting. All things considered, Mr. Thompson has displayed a nice sense of humour in hanging out his sign at Fulham.

# "BEING DEAD, YET SPEAKETH."

**The Shade of his Son: "Fight for your rights, dad, by all means—** ***but don't spoil my work!"***

## "POOR JACK!"

### WANTED: JUSTICE, NOT SYMPATHY.

Our bluejackets did grand work during the war, but they were greatly helped by the men of the mercantile marine. They faced the submarines and mines, and in no instance can it be traced that one single member of this noble band ever refused to go to sea. Yet men who were taken out of British ships which were interned in Germany were left with no help from the Government; in most cases their wages were stopped by the owners—who will receive full compensation for the loss of their vessels—and their wives and children were abandoned to the tender mercies of whoever would help. The most the Board of Trade would do in cases in which the owners refused to pay anything was to grant one month's wages. After the Armistice these men were landed in England, given a ticket home and a compassionate allowance of £2. Many who were in vessels torpedoed or lost were paid off with an extra month's wages from the time their ships were sunk, and then left to shift for themselves; all the while the owners were obtaining vast sums from the Government War Risks Compensation Fund. If any claim was made, they threw all the onus on the Shipping Federation—a society whose main object seems to be to protect the shipowner at the expense of the sailor.

Another source of great hardship to the men has been their lack of knowledge as to which of the various Articles of Engagement they were signed on under—each has a different method of dealing with the men and their dependents in case of loss of life or outfit. It is time the whole working system of the mercantile marine were altered; on paper it is all right, but in practice it is damnable. England ought to be proud of the men of the Merchant Service, and England should see that they are better treated by the shipowner, and not left to the tender mercies of the officials of the Board of Trade, whose whole interest seems to be to act as a stumbling block when any information as to claims for loss is required.

## HARD ON LITTLE BUSINESSES

### SCANDALOUS DELAY IN ISSUING LICENCES.

The delay of the National Service people in issuing licences for the opening of small businesses is scandalous—and ominous. Mr. A. R. Neale, a disabled soldier, first applied last November for leave to open a boot-repairing shop in Swadlincote, near Burton-on-Trent. Since then the Department has kept him on the hooks, and he has been paying rent for the shop all the while. Finally, on 30th January, they informed him that his application was refused, and five days later said the matter was opened for reinvestigation. On what evidence they founded their refusal heaven knows! for nobody has been to look at the shop. Before Neale got this last letter, which gives him some slight hope, he had made up his mind that the only alternative was (1) to starve on 19s. 3d. per week war pension; or (2) open the shop without waiting for a licence, and chance the result. What would have happened to him in the latter case, the following example will show.

Mr. R. T. Harold is an invalid. His wife had resolved to open a small greengrocer's shop to provide for herself and child should anything happen to her husband. They had saved about £12. So last year Mrs. Harold bought the scales, and her husband knocked up a counter and some window boards; they were then told they must apply for a permit. On the form given her Mrs. Harold entered the date on which she wanted to start as 30th January. Of course the permit did not come to hand by then, so she took her courage in both hands, and opened on February 1st to sell the stock in hand and then await results. Two days later an official called, and said he did not see what could stop the permit coming through. Whereupon Mrs. Harold spent the rest of the savings on some more stock. The little business was flourishing when the bomb fell. On 8th February news came that the local Food Office refused to approve of the licence. Is the real reason that the big shops don't want too many little shops springing up? Well, we have heard as much.

## SLOW TIME-KEEPERS.

### MORE ABOUT WATCHES SENT TO COVENTRY.

Both John Hawley, the self-dubbed "Reliable" Watch Manufacturer of Coventry, and his agent, Philip Woolfson, 165, Trongate, Glasgow, have written in reply to our strictures upon their extremely dilatory style of doing business. Mr. Hawley writes: "I say at once that it is untrue." To that we flatly retort that every word we wrote is true, and that complaints are still coming to hand. Mr. Woolfson advances the plea of "the extraordinary difficulty in getting sufficient work-people to cope with repairs," and says that it would be "impossible to get a watch repair through under six months." But he regularly sent out printed postcards promising delivery of repaired watches within "a few weeks" and even within "a few days." Mr. Woolfson, in a P.S., has the effrontery to state: "I shall be very pleased indeed to pay for the cost of the paragraph which you will insert." We have printed his "explanation," such as it is, without requiring him to pay for it. Money cannot buy a paragraph in these columns.

## MONEY—AND MEANNESS.

### DISGRACEFUL SWEATING BY A SCOTTISH BANK.

To be a clerk in the employment of the Clydesdale Bank of Glasgow and Edinburgh is to have plenty of work and little money. Just imagine an "accountant," with 10 years' service, luxuriating on a stipend of £90 per annum. What would the skilled labourers of the Clyde say to wages on this level? The sweated employees of the Clydesdale Bank have been putting in long hours throughout the war, an average day of 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and no overtime pay. It was not until 1917 that anything in the shape of a decent war bonus was offered. Before that, clerks had been engaged on highly responsible duties at salaries ranging from £60 to £80 per annum, with bonuses of £5 to £10. To-day, these same men are enjoying incomes which, on the basis of pre-war prices, would work out at about £1 a week. Turning from wages to profits, we find that for the year 1918 the Clydesdale Bank paid a dividend of 18 per cent., as compared with 16 per cent. in the previous year, its net profits for the twelve months amounting to £315,682. Not a case of poverty, evidently. Is it sheer meanness, or just callous want of thought?

## ONE OF THE OLD BRIGADE.

### ANZACS SAVE HIM FROM A PAUPER'S GRAVE.

Private James Lee had fought in the biggest battles of the Zulu War, the Boer War, and the Egyptian Campaign. The hero died in the workhouse at Walton-on-Thames. We sincerely hope his last years were made comfortable for him there, but we have our doubts when we know that Walton Guardians were in the act of dishonouring his remains with a pauper's funeral. That unworthy purpose would have been fulfilled had not a party of New Zealand soldiers been present at the Cemetery, after having buried a comrade. When they learned that scanty workhouse rites were to be performed for a grand old soldier, they acted. Such honour as they had paid to their own dead they paid to all that was left of Private James Lee. They relieved the parish undertaker's men of the task of carrying the coffin. Anzacs bore it on their shoulders, and they draped it with their Union Jack. The New Zealanders also bore the English fighting man to his grave; they formed the firing-party, and their buglers sounded the "Last Post." It was well done, by gallant men. But, if Walton-on-Thames, not a poor place, had any sense of the fitness of things, it would never attempt to hustle a fine old soldier into a pauper's grave. The heroes of Britain merit their country's respect as well after death as before it.

# IN THE HOUSE.

## "SOMETHING ATTEMPTED—SOMETHING DONE."

As my readers are aware, I succeeded in "securing the adjournment" of the debate on the Address on the first day of the real Session, and consequently obtained precedence on the resumption of the debate. My speech has been so fully reported in the Press that I will content myself by enumerating some of the items with which it dealt.

After calling attention to the alarming admission in the King's Speech of the possibility, however remote, of Germany "deciding to renew the war" (a contingency fully realised by both Clemenceau and Foch), and placing the blame for this state of things upon the muddling upon the part of the politicians of the Armistice—which I reminded the House should have been a purely military measure—I drew attention to one or two significant omissions from the speech. First I alluded to the apparent intention of the Government to keep the vexatious restrictions of "Dora" in force, and I pointed out that the continued interference with the social habits of the people was one of the principal causes of the prevailing unrest. I also drew attention to the absence in His Majesty's speech of any reference to Mr. Wilson's stipulation for "the Freedom of the Seas," and I demanded an official definition of this phrase.

Dealing with the problem of labour unrest, I urged the adoption of the suggestion made in these columns last week for the holding of a "Home" Peace Conference, and was glad to notice that the idea appealed to the Labour Members. I then reminded the Leader of that Party that in formulating on the previous day the causes of industrial unrest generally, he had omitted two of the main items, namely, the shameful profiteering which had been allowed in the food and other necessities of the people, and also the holding up of supplies on the part of the Government. Under the first head I instanced the case of cotton—a reel of which, sold at 2½d. before the war, now costs 7½d., whilst the profits of Coat's last year amounted to nearly three and a half millions. As regards food, I challenged the Government to deny that they had enormous stocks in hand both of meat and of tea; and pointed out that, so far as tea is concerned, the multiple shops were only too anxious to sell it at a lower price than the official 2s. 8d., but that at present, if they ventured to do so, they were liable to be fined. I followed this matter up by various questions to the Food Controller on the next day, and, although no credit has been given to me for the fact, it was in the form of replies to these questions that the food concessions are now being made. I also warned the Labour Party against the illusion that the 80 per cent. Excess Profit Tax was a charge on capital, and pointed out to them that it simply meant that contracts were given out at inflated prices, and so long as the Government took a share of the surplus profit, it did not bother further about the matter.

Then I came to the question of Indemnities, and carried the whole House with me in my protest against official solicitude for the financial capacity of Germany. I pleaded that judgment should go against her for the total cost of the war; that if she did not pay, execution should be issued, and that, if necessary, the whole country should be seized and taken over for the benefit of the Allies. This was a bold proposition, but the House rose to it with wonderful enthusiasm. Then I warned the Government against the danger of smuggling through the Peace Treaty without giving Parliament an opportunity of considering its terms. On the previous day, in answer to an interpolation of mine during his speech, the Prime Minister said Parliament would, of course, have the opportunity of ratifying the Treaty; but, when asked further by me whether it would have the right to alter it, he rather evaded the point. I now, therefore, made it quite clear to the House that, as in the case of the Constitution of the South African Union, there would be no opportunity of altering a comma or a word in the Treaty, and that we should be compelled to take it or leave it—and in that case, I said, if there were any tampering with the questions of Indemnities and Colonies, I should not hesitate to move its rejection.

As already stated, the speech was warmly received by a crowded and attentive House, as packed as it was on the occasion of the Prime Minister's speech on the previous day, and was widely reported and commented on in the Press.

Before this issue is in the hands of the public, I shall also have entered a strong protest against a Bill for relieving newly-appointed Ministers of the obligation to seek re-election, and in addition to this, I shall have called attention to the absence of the Sinn Feiners from Parliament, and pointed out the constitutional remedy for the scandal, besides dealing with various other matters of public interest—and, apart from whatever Press reports may appear, I shall continue to summarise my work from week to week.

PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU.

I have not space this week to enumerate the many matters receiving and awaiting my Parliamentary attention. Every grievance and scandal submitted to me is being fully investigated, and will certainly be brought to the attention of the proper Government Departments.

H. B.

# SENT HOME TO DIE.

## GROSS AND CULPABLE NEGLIGENCE TOWARDS DEMOBILISED TROOPS—A WIDE-SPREAD SCANDAL.

WE can no longer undertake to preserve silence in regard to the more sinister features of the Demobilisation Scandal. We have pledged ourselves to put the interests of the soldiers before all else, and the time has come when we must speak out boldly, leaving the consequences to look after themselves. We have to indict the War Office for gross and culpable negligence in regard to the welfare of the demobilised troops. We have evidence to show that men are being sent from France and Belgium in such conditions of hardship and discomfort as only the strongest can withstand. The signing of the Armistice was greeted with joyous acclamation by our victorious troops; they were encouraged to believe that the war was over and its cruel hardships at an end. Little did they imagine that in many instances the last journey home to "Blighty" was to be the worst chapter of all.

Concrete examples will best illustrate what is happening. First we will take the case of John Henry Garrett, a soldier 42 years of age, the father of four children. When the time came for John Garrett's release from the Army—he had served for three and a half years with credit and distinction—he was suffering from bronchitis, aggravated by the bitter weather of the past few weeks. The Army authorities paid no attention whatever to his illness. Unnerved by a sense of weakness and racked by an incessant cough, the poor fellow was compelled to travel for two days and nights through France and Belgium, herded with others in an open cattle truck. Then there was the voyage across on the exposed deck of a Channel steamer, and, after that, owing to some defect in the railway arrangements, a two hours' wait at Chisledon station before the man could get a train to take him to his home at Coventry. On arrival in the Midlands the poor fellow was more dead than alive—too ill to do anything but sink helplessly on to his bed. Five days later he died of pleurisy. We can no longer burke such tragic facts. The conspiracy of silence in which the great Demobilisation Scandal has been enshrouded must be broken down. Prior to his service in France, Private Garrett had been in hospital at Salonica suffering from malaria and dysentery. From the former malady he had never really recovered; yet, after a short period of sick furlough in England, and whilst still weak from the malarial infection, he was sent to face the rigours of a winter in the trenches. Still, the timely cessation of hostilities might have saved his life and preserved him to his wife and family, who needed him so much. But it was not to be. That cruel demobilisation journey was the fatal blow. The death of John Garrett should lie heavily upon the official conscience. And we mean to press the charge home. But just let us consider another case—that of Sapper Mark Bird, of the Royal Engineers. On January 20th last, Bird left Roubaix for demobilisation, and after 72 hours' exposure in an open cattle-truck, in the severest of winter weather, found himself only 20 miles distant from his place of departure. The cruel journey to Boulogne took five whole days and nights. Are we to be told that this was inevitable; that there was no help for it; that it was not a case of brutal indifference and wicked neglect? At Boulogne there was supposed to be an issue of food to the famished troops, but somehow or other it never appeared. After waiting 1¼ hours in a queue for the missing rations, the men were shipped off to Southampton, nearly starved and almost frozen. The ship was overcrowded, the men being packed on the decks with no shelter from the icy Channel weather. But their ordeal was not yet ended. Arriving at Southampton at 6.30 one evening, they were not disembarked until the next morning; another night on deck, twelve hours longer without a proper meal, with nothing save cups of tea supplied by the ship's stewards at 5d. a cup! Let us conclude the tragic story in the words of Mr. James Bird, the father of the young Sapper we have mentioned. "My son arrived home on January 29th"—nine days after his departure from Roubaix—"and has since died of pneumonia, brought on by the exposure and starvation he had to endure. Before leaving Roubaix he was classed A1."

What answer has the War Office to make to these terrible charges? Mark, the conditions for entraining men in Belgium are so bad that a 20-miles journey has occupied 72 hours, while in the case of Sapper Bird the train took five days and nights to get from Roubaix to Boulogne. The journey was made in open cattle-trucks exposed to any sort of weather—snow, sleet, rain, hail—that it pleased heaven to send. The Prime Minister is concerned to make this a land "fit for heroes to live in"; the Government have not yet managed the relatively trivial task of providing them with railway coaches fit to travel in. As things are, the last journey home has to be undertaken in such conditions as gravely to impair the health, and in many instances to threaten the lives, of men who have risked all for King and Country. How many fatal cases there have been we shall know only gradually, as from time to time the veil is lifted. In how many instances health has been fatally undermined, and a store of future illness and enfeeblement laid up, perhaps we shall never know. Meanwhile our duty is plain. As occasion demands, we shall let in the light.

## A KNAVE IN AUTHORITY.

### MEAT CONTROL OFFICIAL'S DISHONOURED CHEQUES

As Government Deputy Meat Agent for the Watford district, Mr. A. R. Parks holds an appointment from which he should be immediately dismissed. Undoubtedly Parks is quite good at figures; in fact he makes a hobby of finance, his favourite pastime being to draw cheques on his own bank, and then to get local butchers to cash them, without the least regard to the state of his balance. To the 180 butchers of his district he is a "big man," and, of course, it would never do to offend him. Better to run some financial risks than earn the disfavour of a powerful official.

The charges we make are serious, and it may be as well at once to reproduce two letters which form important links in the chain of evidence against Mr. Parks. Both are dated Jan. 27th last, written on official notepaper, and headed with the address of the Government Abattoir. The first is addressed to a Watford butcher from whom, on Jan. 25th last, Parks received £3 in exchange for his own cheque on Barclay's Bank. This epistle runs:—

> May I trespass upon your kindness by asking you to hold my cheque over a few days, as I have only received a small amount this week-end. I shall be in funds again towards the end of the week, and better able to meet it. If you will do this I shall be much obliged, and thank you for the accommodation.—A. R. PARKS.

A nice thing for a Government official to ask for "accommodation" from a tradesman over whom in the public interest he exercises direct authority! The second communication, addressed to another butcher who had parted with £3 5s. on like security, is, it will be noticed, in very similar terms, Parks being evidently a practised hand at this sort of game:—

> May I trespass upon your kindness by asking you to hold my cheque over a few days as I have only received a small amount this week-end, and I am expecting every day to go to Bournemouth to get my money there. Anyway, I shall be in funds again the end of the week, and, if you will keep my cheque until to-day week, I shall be much obliged and thank you for the accommodation.—A. R. PARKS.

Many similar cases are within our knowledge. There are several instances in which cheques drawn by Parks and cashed with local butchers have actually been returned from Barclay's marked "R.D."—Refer to Drawer—there being no cash at the bank to meet them. Some of these transactions were for quite large amounts—sums of £8, £10, and £25. A particularly bad case was that of a butcher at Watford who, after cashing Park's cheque for £3, died rather suddenly, leaving a widow with a young family to support. Struggling to carry on the business, in a poor locality, the woman stands in sad need of the money, but the cheque has been returned unpaid, and Parks makes no apparent effort to repair the wrong he has done. Far different was his conduct in the case of a Wealdstone butcher from whom he had received £10 on a cheque afterwards dishonoured. Angry at the trick played on him, the butcher, a burly representative of the trade, intimated his intention of waiting upon Parks for the purpose of giving him a public thrashing, a threat he was well qualified to execute. The money was repaid next morning.

Obviously, Parks cannot remain a day longer in his position as Deputy Meat Agent for the Watford district. By the flagrant dishonesty of his proceedings, he has forfeited the respect of all decent people in the district, while his touting propensities have made him a thorough nuisance to the trade. We actually hear of a case in which, armed with a cheque for £7, probably worthless, he "tried it on" a woman who, while struggling to maintain her husband's business, was contributing £2 weekly towards support of the poor man, who is ill. Unhappily, there is but too much evidence to convict this official of shameless dishonesty and of trading upon his public position for unworthy private ends. Parks must go.

*Cheeriboy's Peace Topics, No. 8*

**Demobilization.**

*"We all want the boys back in 'Civies,'" remarks Uncle Cheeriboy, "and our rulers must see to it that they discard khaki as soon as circumstances permit."*

**I would like to see the demobilization as rapid and as effective as that wonderful change which always follows the use of Page Woodcock's Pills, for as millions of people have proved in the past 70 years, this grand British remedy is unrivalled for exchanging the dull cloak of disease for the brighter lines of radiant health.**

**Page Woodcock's Pills are positive in their curative action in cases of indigestion, flatulence, anæmia, heartburn, blood impurity, liver and kidney troubles and general debility, and are acknowledged to be the standard remedy for all such conditions and diseases.**

They make and keep you fit!
70 years' reputation.
Sold by all Chemists.
Have cured millions. Will cure you.

Page Woodcock's Pills

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## IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

### THE FOOD CONTROLLER.

Well, I was jest goin' orf to me dinner, but since you're in a 'urry I'll let the missus wait. Wot is it? . . . 'Air-cut? Orl right. This chair, please. But it ain't no light thing, keepin' the missus waitin', I might tell yer, and I don't do it more orfen than I kin 'elp. This war's played the very jooce with 'er temper. Uster be one o' the best-tempered wimmin on Gawd's earth, she did. But the larst year or two 'er nerves 'ave gorn orl to pieces. . . . *Wot do I put it down to?* W'y, the Food Controller. That's 'er trouble. I know food 'ad to be controlled w'ile the were was on. But things is diff'rent now. There's any amount o' grub in the country, but Mister Food Controller is keepin' the prices up. . . .

* * * *

Look at the profiteerin' wot's goin' on. You can't git away from thet. Look at the Maypole Dairy Company declarin' a divvy of 225 per cent. Look at the price o' bacon, an' meat. I tell yer there's profiteerin' goin' on orl round, and the biggest profiteer of the lot is the Guv'ment. . . . Oh, yes—*'avin' bought at top prices the Exchequer would make a loss if the prices was to drop too soon.* I know thet. But *let* 'em I say. The people 'ave gotter pay in the end, one way or another, but they don't like 'avin' to pay for it through their grub. I tell yer, the 'igh cost o' livin', now the were is over, breeds Bolsheviks. That's partly at the bottom o' the industrial unrest. A chap earns decent money, p'raps, but pritty near the 'ole of it 'as to go to the missus fur 'cus-keepin'. *Do I know 'oo I'm torkin' to?* Yes, I do. From the narsty way you're takin' my few remarks I sh'd think you're either a bloated food profiteer or p'raps Mister Roberts himself. Oh, thet's 'oo you are, *is* it. Then if you don't mind I'll call the missus. She wasn't 'arf out for yore blood at breakfast time. I *know* the Cabinet 'as to be consulted. . . . But is yore duty due to the public, wot pays yore screw, or the Cabinet? If the Treasury 'amper you, resign yore job. Everybody aint earnin' wore wages, you know. There is such people as Old Age pensioners. 'Ow kin they buy enough nourishin' grub to keep their strength up with their potty little pittance, at present prices? It can't be did. Wot's the result? They're dyin' like flies in a frorst. 'Ow'll thet do, sir? Short enough? Right. Now, if you don't mind waitin' 'arf a mo' I'll fetch the missus down. *You 'aven't the time to spare?* I'm sorry fur thet, sir. But before you go, let me remind you once more thet yore job is to keep yore eye on the profiteers. If you do thet, you won't find 'as food requires very much controllin'. Goe'day, sir.

## "A FRIEND IN NEED."

**Although established only a few weeks ago, already a considerable number of readers have cause to feel grateful for our Free Fire Insurance—an entirely new departure in journalism, as was the air-raid indemnity scheme which so "set the fashion" to the newspaper world. Claims have been paid to readers residing in all quarters of the country. Writes Mr. B. Jennings, of 96, Nelson Road, Crouch End: "Your Scheme meets a great want, as for such a small outlay householders and others who are not insured have placed in their hands means by which they are recompensed for any damage—independently of which, JOHN BULL is more than worth the weekly sum." Mr. John Hardman, of 114, Oxford Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, also sends his "sincere thanks for prompt settlement" of his claim—a sentiment which is shared, amongst others, by Mr. E. Cragg, of 28, Maidstone Road, Liverpool; whilst Mr. Thomas Watson, of 28, Studland Street, Hammersmith, in thanking us for cheque received in compensation for personal injuries sustained whilst putting out a fire, expresses his warm appreciation in view of the fact that, strictly speaking, his claim was, in the special circumstances, outside the scope of the Scheme.**

# STILL FOOLING

## *Plain Facts About the Food Position—G*

*By THE E*

ALTHOUGH I did not speak until the second day in the Debate on the Address in answer to the Speech from the Throne, and notwithstanding the fact that the leader of the Labour Party had preceded me, I was the first to call the attention of the House to the shameful profiteering in the food and other necessities of the people on the part of private firms and companies, and to the unjustifiable holding up of food supplies on the part of the Government. And, as explained on another page, I followed the matter up next day by questions relating to meat and tea—extracting a promise as regards the former article that it should at once be taken in hand—whilst as regards tea, the officially fixed price of 2s. 8d. per pound is to be abolished, leaving the great multiple firms and others to supply their customers at such lower prices as they think fit. There can be no doubt that this question of profiteering and food cornering is one of the root causes of the present industrial unrest, and I have made it my business to look somewhat carefully into the whole subject. The result, I confess, somewhat startles me, and I will leave the facts I am about to reveal to speak for themselves.

### Food Left to Rot.

For instance, in Australia, for want of shipment, hundreds of thousands of tons of wheat are at present stacked and going rotten and being devoured by rats. The same remark applies to our own country, where in 1918 one half of our yearly crops was given to the pigs—having been stored and held back so long that it went bad. Then take the case of Paraguay and the River Plate, where the same conditions prevail—farmers and others remaining idle because the shipping has been messed about and used for all sorts of improper purposes. Again, take the position at the Front. The wastage has been enormous. Cheese for many months has been thrown away, the men being sick of it, whilst fires are actually lighted with the help of butter. When I was out in France in September, 1917, I saw one road which had been built on a foundation consisting of unopened tins of meat and pots of jam! The meat market here, too, is at the moment of writing, full of Scotch beef, but the Food Control are holding it back, and there is a rare row going on amongst the wholesale butchers in regard to the matter. I understand it is to be released in a few days' time, but the big markets on Thursday and Friday will then have been missed. And Mr. Roberts tells us that there is a shortage of English meat! I have also heard of two train-loads of meat being recently sent down to Meopham in Kent—where the Camberwell dust destroyers are situated!—because it had been allowed to go rotten. And so I could go on giving illustration after illustration of how, whilst the people are clamouring for food, it is being wasted in this way.

### The Cost of Meat.

Let me now say something about the way in which the cost to the public has been artificially inflated. There can be no question that the Government is bound hand and foot to the great American Meat Trust, known by the ironical name of the "Big Five"—who, of course, must not be confused with the other Five sitting in Paris. This Trust consists of five great firms who enjoy a practical monopoly of the supply of meat to this country, and who, unless we are very careful, will control the supplies of the future. The names of this particular five are at present Armour and Co., Swift and Co., Morris and Co., Wilson and Co., and the Cudahy Packing Co.—although, until quite recently, the ominous name of Germon F. Sulzberger was amongst them. What the exact price paid by the British Government is, I am not at present in a position to state definitely, but I think it is well under 1s. per pound. Nor am I familiar with the exact terms of the contract. I am certain, however, that there is something sinister in its provisions, or we should not have the Trust bringing frozen meat all the way from the Argentine to New York and then shipping it to England—instead of sending direct in half the time and at half the expense, to say nothing of the waste of tonnage. To show how radically wrong the situation must be, let me give the result of my investigation into the stocks of our principal foodstuffs to-day as compared with 1915, the first year after the outbreak of the war, and then show you how, although the consumption has materially decreased, the cost has gone up. I will take first the case of meat. In 1915 there were 74,000 tons in hand; to-day there are over 130,000; in the case of bacon and ham the respective figures are 19,000 tons for 1915 and 70,000 to-day; wheat 1,900,000 tons in 1915 as against 2,765,000 tons to-day; lard, 12,000 tons in 1915 against 29,000 to-day; oats, 1,150,000 tons in 1915 against 2,500,000 to-day. In the case of sugar I have no figures to compare with 1915, but in 1916 we had 60,000 tons on hand as against 300,000 to-day. And finally I will take cheese, where the stock in 1915 was 8,000 tons as against 16,000 tons at the present time. It will therefore be seen that in every case stocks have enormously increased, whilst it requires no tabulated statement to establish the fact that consumption has decreased, partly owing to the introduction of the rationing system, and partly to the great increase in retail prices. Let me give you a few illustrations. English beef is to-day three times dearer than it was; foreign beef four times; bacon two and a-half times; cheese (mostly American and Canadian) four times; whilst even bread, despite the State subsidy of £60,000,000, has gone up nearly 15 per cent. Now it must be obvious from these figures that, as I say, something is radically wrong, and I call upon our new Food Controller, Mr. Roberts, who is certainly not lacking in courage, to face the position boldly and honestly and, at whatever technical loss to the Government, to release the large quantities of food now available. After all, the Ministry of Food was not established as a money-making concern, although it is no secret that it is making between two and three millions a year profit out of the public.

### An Official Protest.

By the way, I have never seen published the real explanation of why Mr. U. F. Wintour, one of our most experienced Civil Servants, resigned from the secretaryship of the Ministry of Food. He had been previously Permanent Secretary to the War Contracts Department—in which capacity he saved the nation several millions of pounds. But rather than submit to the terms laid down by the American Meat Trust he threw up his post, knowing that supplies could be obtained from Australia and elsewhere at a much lower cost. The explanation given at the time was all camouflage, and Mr. Clynes, the then Food Controller, was thoroughly gulled by the American group, who have never been lacking in adroitness and cunning. So far I have confined myself to food, but the facts are quite as bad in regard to such staple articles as coal, leather and wool—the supplies of which have been under the control of the Government for the past few years. Really, before talking about private profiteering and waste, the Government must look to its own reputation in this respect. It is in no frivolous spirit that I say that in the recent bitterly cold weather I felt hot with anger that in thousands of homes throughout the country there was no coal. A London schoolmaster told me that the lads in his school had to leave coal-less homes to come to fire-less classrooms, and that what was true of his school was true of scores of others. Now, when the fighting is over and thousands of colliers are back in the mines, we are threatened with another turn-out to paralyse every industry and harass every home. And yet, as far as I can ascertain, there is no excuse for the present shortage. Take the Midlands, for instance. The miners there are working short time, not more than four and a half days in a week. I have also heard of one pit where stocks of coal are remaining at the pit-head, whilst at other places slack is being thrown down the bank and burnt. At the time of writing, the miners are taking a ballot for a new strike—and I am bound to say that the men are not being given a very candid explanation of the points in dispute. If Sir Robert Horne, the new Labour Minister, is wise, he will at once take steps to circulate amongst all miners a simple statement of the points now in issue, with a ballot paper of his own, asking whether the men are in favour of continued negotia-

# WITH OUR FOOD.

## vernment Profiteering—Good-by-ee, Wilson !

EDITOR.

tion as an alternative to striking. By all means let the miners have everything to which they are reasonably entitled—heaven knows the nature of their work demands it—but let them, on the other hand, speed up production to the utmost of their power; and, by the way, let the colliery owners also see that the best seams are worked, and not held up for their personal benefit when the existing war guarantee of profits comes to an end and the mines—unless taken over by the State, revert to them. After all, the strike is a dangerous weapon; nobody knows who may be hit by it. In Glasgow, for example, there are hundreds of loyal workers, who never dreamed of downing their tools, thrown out of employment by the recent strike. They have paid for years into the National Unemployment Insurance, and yet at the Labour Exchanges are refused out-of-work benefit or other assistance. The officials say they can do nothing "because it is a strike." But these men are not strikers, and it is scandalous that they should be deprived of their just dues. I cannot, however, believe that we are again to be plunged into the horror of another coal strike—which would act as a magnet for further industrial disruption. If we are, then indeed must British statesmanship be bankrupt. And now take the case of leather. Many thousands of pounds' worth has been wasted, whilst there must still be huge surplus stocks which could be liberated at a reasonable price, thus enabling the working-classes to obtain boots and shoes capable, at any rate, of keeping their feet dry. As regards wool, although the Control has been released, the terms of the contracts under which the Government obtained its supplies and control were so exorbitant and unreasonable, as regards both price and time, that it will be impossible for the next two years for people to obtain decent clothing except at outrageous prices. No number of speeches in the House of Commons will solve these problems. A more practical remedy than that must be found.

### Our *Home* Conference.

Well, what is the remedy? Candidly, we have heard but one during the recent discussion in Parliament—and we are immodest enough to say it was our own. It was the suggestion I made in the last issue of this journal—that contemporaneously with the Peace Conference in Paris we should convene one at Home—to deal with the problems of *domestic* peace. This is what I said in my speech during the debate on the Address, when dealing with the subject of industrial unrest: "The Prime Minister said yesterday that the Government would welcome suggestions. Well, I am going, with the utmost respect to the Labour Party, to throw out what I conceive to be a practical and a practicable suggestion. You have sitting in Paris a Conference to settle the Peace after the War. Surely, whilst that is going on, you might now appoint a Home Conference here, to settle industrial peace, and have the representatives of Capital and of Labour—even the most extreme amongst them—round a table, and see if you cannot set up some Department of the State, and some machinery which will prevent unofficial agitators from destroying the greatest charter Labour possesses in its regular and constitutional Trade Unions—and see if you cannot devise some machinery for settling trade disputes. If the Conference, well attended as it would be, arrived at conclusions simultaneously with those of the Paris Conference, it would be of no less value to the nation than that which will terminate the unhappy war. I submit this idea to the Labour Party for its consideration." And now I understand that the Government proposes to adopt my idea. Forgive my reiteration of the personal note about its authorship, but you will soon find the general press taking up the proposal with all the self-assurance and nonchalance of the hardened pick-pocket. The *Observer*, on Sunday, gave a splendid lead: "Wanted At Home—A Peace Conference" was the title of its leading article, and this is the callous and cynical manner in which, with the moral and intellectual subservience to Mr. Lloyd George which marks its policy under its present ownership, it places the credit of the scheme to his account: "It is understood that the Government means to summon an unprecedented conference of Labour and Capital to thresh out issues face to face before disturbance can come to a cataclysm. *The Prime Minister could have done nothing better.*" What do you think of it? But let that pass—we are accustomed to it. The thing is to have the conference. We might then, in fact if not in form, get some of the profiteers face to face with the consumers, whilst the legitimate capitalist was never in a more accommodating mood than he is to-day. There has indeed recently been formed several great federations and commonwealths of employers with the main object of arriving at an amicable agreement with the workers, and if the representatives of the two classes could be got together, under a genial and diplomatic president, I am certain that all these questions which lie behind strikes and threatened strikes—food, wages, cost of living and all the rest of it—would find a solution. At any rate, the experiment is well worth trying, and I hope it is true that the Government has come to that conclusion.

### Good-by-ee, Wilson!

It may be taken as a happy augury that the United States President has left for home with the Charter of the Millennium in his pocket. His going leaves our statesmen free to look over the nation's business, and releases them from the necessity of dancing attendance upon and paying pretty compliments to the amiable idealist of the White House. I had thought that in the grim reality of war we had done with shams and humbug. And yet for weeks the pressing and immediate task of dictating our peace terms to Germany has been held up while well-meaning old gentlemen, gathered from the four corners of the world, have talked airy nothings about a new Heaven on Earth. And all the time the enemy has had his finger to his nose, realising that the longer the delay in fixing him with guilt and infamy all the better for the criminal that he is. Oh, yes! I know we all want the Millennium. But I refuse to regard it as rank blasphemy to examine and criticise these so-called International expedients for turning the Hun into a decent human being, and making all the lions and tigers of the nations lie down with these little lambs—the smaller nationalities. What makes me smile is to see how few even of the strong ones—and there are one or two—at the Paris Conference have not been afraid to say "cheese" to President Wilson.

### A Dangerous "Experiment."

Fortunately, the Prime Minister was at home during that wonderful gathering at which the League of Nations was blessed in every European language—except German. And from the distance which separates London from Paris, he seems to have seen the League in its right perspective. I heard him in the House describe this marvellous plan for mixing oil and water—taking the naughty nations by the scruff of the neck and making them behave—as "an experiment"—simply that and nothing more. So you see what it comes to: the wise men of the world—in other words, the statesmen and the politicians—have been wasting their time on "an experiment" which may or may not succeed, when all that we want and the nations who have beaten Germany want, is to see that other Big Five pass sentence on the Criminals of Europe. But France is not satisfied—I do not wonder—that the League will be able to defend her from a repetition of that wanton aggression which in August 1914 opened the flood-gates of a bloody war. And practical commonsense Mr. Barnes was man enough, and British enough, to join his expression of fear with that of our gallant ally. France will need a big army to make her secure—she knows it—and she doesn't want Mr. Wilson, or anyone else, to go away with the idea that in the pocket of the President is the physic which will cure all ills, the magic potion that shall dull all ambitions and prevent war for ever. Well, thank goodness, the great man has gone back to the States—where, by the way, already there is awaiting him a good deal of hot criticism of his new Magna Charta. America has been seeing the President at a distance, and seems to have got *him* in his right perspective. So, good-by-ee, Mr. Wilson, we will now attend to our own business.

# THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

*The readers of "JOHN BULL" discuss matters of Public Interest.*

*In giving publicity to the views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.*

*All envelopes must be marked "People's Pulpit."*

### American Dumping.

"Are you in a position to explain to the public why America is being allowed to dump manufactured articles of all description in this country, and is it true that the same remark applies to Belgium, Siberia, and other parts of Russia, whereas the Britisher is prohibited by his Government from exporting most articles?"—DOUGLAS C. COOK, Ickburgh Road, Clapton.

### "Back to the Land."

"What are to be the new attractions for service on the land? I have worked on different farms for *seventy years* and brought up a family of eight. My income at present is as follows: Old Age Pension for myself and wife 5s. each and one of two sons in the army allows his mother 6s. 9d. per week, of which we only use the amount allowed by Government, probably about 3s. 3d., making a total of 13s. 3d. in all. Do you think it enough after so many years of service for the nation?"—"RURAL," Shamley, Guildford.

### Demobilised Men's Belongings.

"Being a reservist, I was called up in August, 1914, and at that time was living in Birmingham. When recalled I sold practically all the home, my wife returning to Wales. I am now demobilised, I am desirous of returning to Birmingham, but find, for the few things we have, we shall have to pay an enormous excess fare. Should not the Government make a grant in cases like this?"—W. TRINDER, Mount Pleasant Street, Dowlais.

### Unoffending Middle-Class.

"I am not either a Capitalist or a Labour 'martyr,' but merely one of the hundreds of thousands—nay, millions—of the unoffending middle-class, whose only function is to smile—and pay. I left a good job to "do my bit" and have now returned to civil life, only to find that my job is closed through want of production and many thousands of 'unfortunates' are in the same position. I have no sympathy whatever with the ultra-socialist, but no one can deny that to some extent the arguments put forward by these people give us food for reflection."—"ONE OF 'EM," Elliot Street, Hillhead, Glasgow.

### A Tax on Morality.

"It is a gross injustice to require a man to return his wife's along with his own income, and to pay tax on the aggregate. A brother and sister, living together, each with an income of £120, pay no tax; any man and woman living together with these incomes pay no tax; but if we indulge in a desire to conventionalise the union by the recognised and approved method of getting married, we are fined by a beneficent and paternal Government for our 'morality.'"—C. P. WESTBURY, Bristol.

### The Real Cause.

"What is the real cause of this patriotic country, which stood solid until the Germans were knocked out, now turning into a seething turmoil of discontent? Answer: Thieving and starving the soldiers, and general profiteering on the public; that's the kernel. Now, Mr. Bottomley, do get to work, and for Heaven's sake read this letter to Mr. Lloyd George."—JAS. CUNNINGHAM, Brachead, High Blantyre.

### Labour Unrest.

"Three months ago I acted as foreman on a large estate controlled by the Board of Trade. The man at whose cottage I stayed had signed an agreement with his employer not to leave his agricultural work. This man was over forty years of age, and had a wife and two children, and was receiving a wage of 25s. per week. A local youth, seventeen years of age, acting as stableman to this department of the Board of Trade, was receiving 51s. per week as wages, and another lad fifteen years of age 41s. 7d. per week. I ask you, Sir, what must have been the feelings of the poor farm labourer?"—P. S. J., Foxley Lane, Purley.

### Wages During Holidays.

"One quarter of 1918 I paid income tax, and the holiday week I had no wages; also there were several short weeks. What a peculiar state to be in! This wage tax wants to come off, or the lowest limit should be £5 per week; also working men want to draw pay holiday weeks as well as the staff"—"WORKING MAN," Henrietta Street, Birmingham.

### "Chicago Tribune" Against Prohibition.

"Let me warn you that the world was never in greater need of the proverbial sanity and square dealing of John Bull than it is to-day, when organised American fanaticism is about to invade the British Dominions with a propaganda equally as subtle and outrageous as anything the Huns tried to put over the world. Let me impress upon you that Prohibition in the United States is not the voice of the people, but the result of American politics, which system may God help Britain to guard against. There is as much democracy in the U.S. under the rule of these fanatics and politicians as there is in Russia."—J. ROBERTS, Milwaukee, U.S.A.

### Making the Innocent Pay.

"How about Germany not paying the *full* costs of the war, while innocent Britishers are to keep on paying away 80 per cent. of their profits, and income-tax to the tune of a quarter of one's income is to be deducted from the incomes of widows and orphans—money often saved up at the expense of much self-denial?"—H. C. USSHER, Grammar School, Horsham.

### Remember!

"The Hun is quite unregenerate yet—see Ebert's speech in the Reichstag, which displays rampant Prussian militarism and world-domination and slavery in every line of it. Every penny reduction in the indemnity will be a nail they will try to drive into our coffin in the next war they mean to wage. We must not forget what they did with the money they extorted from France in 1870; they hoarded it up for 'Der Tag,' and what they have done before they will do again if we are soft enough to let them off one penny. The only way is to cripple them for 100 years by bleeding them white financially."—HARTLEY BRACEWELL, Cardigan Terrace, Leeds.

### A Plea for the Publican.

"I have paid licence here for 40 years and rates, etc., and I have not been able to supply a bottle of whisky out-of-doors for quite eight months, and weeks at a stretch have none to retail indoors. Why should I have to pay a heavy licence and then be debarred from getting stuff to sell, which is my living? It is impossible to pay your way; it will mean ruin."—C. K., Curzon Street, Mayfair.

### Be Fair to Glasgow!

"I am a loyal citizen of Glasgow. You say Glasgow is the forcing bed of revolution. That may be true, but I want to point out to you that the chief agitators are Englishmen from Leicester and such places, and Irishmen from God knows where. I have had six different Englishmen boarded with me. All were red-hot Socialists, and the last two 'conchies' from London. I gave these two short shrift. I ask you to be fair to my countrymen and remember all these traitors are not Scotch, and also Glasgow is not the only place where there is now Labour unrest."—"S. GOVAN," Glasgow.

### "Demuddleisation."

"One of my boys left his job, a wife, and four children when Lord Kitchener called, he being out in 1915. Home wounded, out again in 1916-17; home with trench feet; out again in 1918, and with back to wall, and over the top; sent into the hospital by the doctor's orders (influenza); and now guarding the Rhine. His employers, a well-known firm, applied for him in December as a contract man. Don't you think his wife and children want him home—his employers also? The 1914 heroes have been treated shamefully."—Mrs. ROWE, Glenwood Road, Catford.

### What Wilhelm Missed.

"You are no doubt aware that your renowned paper is on sale in the streets of Cologne. Can you picture it—a Jerry selling JOHN BULL? Wouldn't it just make the ex-Kaiser weep if he could only see it? One almost wished that the vendors were able to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest. Anyhow, if they do not derive benefit, you can rest assured that Britishers do, and they sell like hot cakes. Cheero, and the best of luck."—"B COMPANY," No. 1 Concentration Camp, 2nd Army, B.E.F., A.O.O.

# "THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

*(Registered under the Act of 1916 as "The John Bull War Sufferers' Fund.")*

***This fund affords immediate relief to the dependents of soldiers and sailors stranded for want of money. Every farthing subscribed goes to some deserving person—we gladly defray all expenses.***

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

**Poor Little Chap:**—The four year old son of an ex-soldier fell into the fireplace and was scalded to death through the upsetting of a kettle of boiling water. The child was uninsured; the father has been out of work for a month; there are five remaining children to keep and clothe, so that our timely aid was gratefully received.

**"Remembering Our Kindness":**—Another child of an ex-soldier was lying dead, and his grandmother appealed to us to prevent the horror of a pauper's funeral, feeling confident that we would repeat a former kindness. The father of the deceased child is seriously ill in hospital; the mother died a few weeks ago, uninsured. We saw that both had decent interment.

**Down on His Luck:**—The only son of a widowed mother was in a desperate mood when he wrote us, he having been discharged from the Service to work in civil life, but finds he is unable to follow his employment as a farmer owing to repeated breakdown of health—he suffers from the effects of nervous shock. He is undergoing treatment, and his poor old widowed mother cannot work to keep things straight.

**The Home Fires:**—Owing to the lengthy illness of two of her children, a soldier's wife was at her wits' end, not knowing how to obtain coal with which to keep the sick room warm. A long milk bill was awaiting payment; the rent was in arrears; and altogether acute distress prevailed in the little home.

**Bedridden:**—A poor woman has been lying helpless in bed for five months. She has one child, but could not look after it, or pay for any help. The rent was greatly in arrears, and had we not intervened the poor woman and her child would have been faced with a sorry prospect. Her husband is still in the Army.

**Some Further Cases:**—

Delicate child has to be taken to hospital frequently; her mother has to lose work for the purpose.

Old soldier died uninsured. His sister appealed for help towards burial.

Pensioner, former Mons man, died. Not sufficient funds in hand for burial.

Ex-soldier in advanced stage of consumption. Delicate wife and two children, practically destitute.

Owing to the sickness of her four children, a soldier's wife has been unable to pay either rent or rates, and a distress warrant was issued. Unpleasant consequences were promptly prevented by us.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS.

### WHAT HAVE *YOU* GIVEN?

*(Although there has been a cessation of active hostilities at the Front, there is not only no diminution in the number of claims which we receive from soldiers and sailors and their wives and dependents, but an actual increase. Indeed, this war will leave a legacy of trouble and suffering for many years, which it will be the privilege of ourselves and our readers to do what we can to assuage.)*

Part proceeds of Sailors' Dance, P.W.S.S. *Stanger Road* (per B. F. C.), £1 10s.; J. H. and Co. (Middlesbrough), £1 1s.; A. S. H. (Northwich), 1s.; G. W. (Kirkcowan), 2s.; "Her Don," 2s.; E. W. (Sidcup), 5s.; A. A., 6d.; Anon., 6d.; J. H. (Teignmouth), 1s. 6d.; S. B. (Barnes), 1s.; F. W. T., 1s.; W. A. H., 1s.; F. H. S., 6d.; A. P. (Upavon), 4s.; "Returned Sailor," 1s. 6d.; J. W., 1s.; "Bombardier," 6d.; J. O., 2s. 6d.; Pte. W. J. L., 2s. 6d.; J. H. R., 2s. 6d.; R. G. M., 1s.; J. H. G., 1s. 6d.; "Working Man," 6d.; "Traveller," 5s.; "Not So Much of the Wilson," 10s.; A. F. R. (Walthamstow), 10s.; J. A. W. (B.E.F.), 7s. 8d.; E. M. B., 10s.; G. A. W. (Warminster), 1s.; "W.," £1; F. P. H., 5s.; "A Volunteer Disabled Soldier's Wife," 10s.; Pte. E. H., 2s.; "In Memory of my Dear Husband," 2s. 6d.; W. R. (Manchester), 2s. 6d.; W. N. S., 2s. 6d.; G. M. W. (Bombay), £3; G. F. C., 10s.; "Lover of Horses" (Burton-on-Trent), 6d.; "M. & A., Very Thankful," 8s.; "Amateur de Chevaux," £3; C. S. (Ashford), 1s.; "M. A., Cantab.," 1s.; E. F. M. (U.S.A.), 2 dollars; A. M. (Manitoba), 1s.; F. G. (Alberta), 3s. 7d.; P. J. W. (Brixton), 2s.; A. T. R., 6d.; J. W. (B.E.F.), 6d.; "Banker," 2s.; "Langley," parcel; I. P. (Durham), 2s. 6d.; A. M. G. (Sefton Park), 2s. 6d.; "18, Marley," 2s. 6d.; Miss B. (Exmouth), 4s.; C. C., 5s.; T. S., 5s.; "Ex-Minesweeper," 2s. 6d.; R. G. (Doncaster), 10s.; "Muddy Cat," 5s.; "Two of the Boys on the Rhine," 10 marks; A. M. M., 6d.

*(Owing to pressure upon space, it is impossible to acknowledge in the columns of the paper contributions made by means of our Collecting Boxes. The holders of such boxes are, however, given official printed receipts.)*

# PELMANISM IN 1925.

## BY A BUSINESS MANAGER.

IN the Pelman lesson dealing with Imagination and how to turn it to account occurs the following sentence: "It is by the power of Imagination that we are enabled to picture what might be." After re-reading this during one of my periodic reviews of the Course, it flashed across my mind that it would be interesting to attempt to visualise what Pelmanism might be in 1925.

So rapid has been its progress during the War that one can do no more than speculate on what will be the exact position of Pelmanism a few years hence, though it is fairly easy to foresee some of the results of the spread of this system of mind and memory training.

### A SHORT REVIEW.

Let me remind readers quite briefly of one or two facts concerning Pelmanism. A quarter of a century ago it was unknown. For years its advance was slow—it was too new for most people. They scoffed at the idea of mind training; said it couldn't be done. But its founder, Mr. W. J. Ennever, and those associated with him, lacked neither courage nor hope. Sooner or later, Pelmanism would earn the recognition which was its due; of that they were confident. During the three or four years immediately preceding the War Pelmanism was just coming into its own. It remained for the War, however, to work that change in our mental outlook which has given Pelmanism its real opportunity. In the fifty-one months since August, 1914, as many people adopted Pelmanism as during the previous twenty years, while since the armistice was signed I am told that the daily enrolments have been greater than ever, and that the half-million total in the membership of the Institute is now within sight.

### MILLIONS OF PELMANISTS.

In my mind's eye I see Pelmanism making inevitably greater and greater headway each year until, in 1925, its adherents are numbered by millions, even if no move has been made in the meanwhile to nationalise the study, as has been repeatedly suggested in many quarters. But I cannot imagine five years—and five of the most fateful years in the history of the British Empire—passing before some definite step is taken by Parliament toward making Pelmanism a part of our national education.

### A MINISTRY OF PELMANISM.

Thus my imagination pictures the establishment of a Ministry of Pelmanism working in close harmony with the Ministries of Education, Labour, Overseas Trade, and other departments of the Government. Pelmanism will then occupy a prominent position in the curriculum of our elementary, secondary, and public schools, while every teacher will be a qualified exponent of its principles and their application, not only to the study of other subjects, but also to the problems of after school life and work. "Going to school" will be shorn of its terrors and become a true delight to the children. Their ordinary lessons will gain so much in interest through Pelmanism that the task of the teacher will be considerably lightened.

I conceive, too, that every boy and girl over school age will be required to work through the Pelman Course and pass an examination on its teachings as a part of the vocational training which, we hope, by that time will be a feature of our national life. So many of the employers of 1925 will be people who are now studying the Course, and will benefit from it during the years just ahead of us, that it will no doubt be a common practice to insert the stipulation "Must be a Pelmanist" in their advertisements in the "Situations Vacant" columns of the newspapers, for by 1925 it is practically a foregone conclusion that the superiority of the Pelman-trained man or woman will be universally recognised, no matter what his or her occupation may be.

### EXIT THE SCOFFERS.

No great movement has made progress without arousing a great deal of opposition. Pelmanism is no exception. Yet it seems to me that another five years will witness such a thinning of the ranks of the scoffers and sceptics who now, through sheer ignorance, deride Pelmanism, that no anti-Pelmanist will dream of airing his views in 1925 for fear of being considered eligible for a lunatic asylum.

### THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

By 1925, we may assume that another General Election will have taken place. Any keen Pelmanist of the present time will agree with me that it would be an excellent thing if it were a sine quâ non that every aspirant to a seat in the Commons should be conversant with the principles of Pelmanism. Nothing proves this more conclusively, in my opinion, than the character of the average election address issued during the recent electoral contest. Is it too fantastic an idea to suggest that the M.P.'s of 1925 will, in the main, be Pelmanists?

### A PELMANISED WHITEHALL.

At the risk of being considered a visionary or a super-optimist, I think we might count within the realms of possibility the reorganising and reconstruction of our Governmental Departments on a Pelmanistic basis. The examples of business efficiency provided by two or three of the newer Ministries have raised hopes in some of us, and surely with Pelmanism on the floodtide, we can look forward to the time when all the departmental cobwebs and red tape will be swept away, leaving behind only organisations which will be of real service to the nation.

And here my imaginings must end. These somewhat scrappy views of what Pelmanism might be, and might be doing, in 1925, may appear far-fetched and rather ridiculous. Blame my enthusiasm for Pelmanism for my foolish optimism, if so you describe it, but remember at the same time that six years ago nobody would have dared to predict that Pelmanism would occupy the eminent position it does to-day. So, six years hence, my "vapid vapourings" may be nearer the mark than appears at all likely at the present moment. A. T.

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### QUESTIONS OFTEN ASKED.

Readers of this page are requested to read very carefully the Questions and Answers given below. It will save them and the PELMAN Institute a certain amount of correspondence about details.

**1.—How many lessons are there in the PELMAN Course?**
Twelve. The Synopsis of these lessons will be found in the pages of "Mind and Memory."

**2.—How much time should be given to the Course daily?**
This depends on personal circumstances, as some pupils have more spare time than others. Twenty minutes or half an hour daily should enable the pupil to complete in three or four months.

**3.—Will this Course help me in my business?**
There is no brain worker in any business or profession who cannot benefit by the study of the Course.

**4.—What do you mean by the word "system."**
This word is used in order to express a certain quality in the training; that quality is *Method:* in other words, the organisation of knowledge and its scientific application to every-day needs.

**5.—Is the result of the training lasting?**
Undoubtedly; the training ensures permanent benefit. The man who is put on the right road for physical health must continue to respect physical laws, otherwise his health declines once more. It is the same in the mental world. The PELMAN System shows a man how to use his mind in the best way, but if he become careless he naturally loses what he has gained, and his mental efficiency relapses into its previous inefficiency.

**6.—Is the instruction individual?**
Yes. The system is individualised to each pupil by means of annotations; by personal letters; and by answering the personal questions of the pupil himself.

**7.—I have not had a good education. Is this a drawback?**
If you have had an ordinary school education you will find nothing in the PELMAN System which you cannot understand and nothing which may not be a source of profit.

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*Full particulars of the Pelman Course are given in "Mind and Memory," which also contains a complete descriptive Synopsis of the 12 lessons. A copy of this interesting booklet, together with a full reprint of "Truth's" famous Report on the work of the Pelman Institute, and particulars showing how you can secure the complete Course at a reduced fee, may be obtained gratis and post free by any reader of* JOHN BULL *who applies to the Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C. 1.*

*Overseas Addresses:* 46-48, *Market Street, Melbourne;* 15, *Toronto Street, Toronto; Club Arcade, Durban.*

**Why run risks? Accept our Free Fire Insurance offer on page 16.**

# "TOMMY AND JACK."

**Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents.**

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean close-pairing, shall go unchallenged and unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

## "TOMMY."

**Fie!**:—The Brigadier-General controlling the Colonel-in-Command of No. 5 Field Ambulance in Germany should parade the men and ask for their grievances, which are many. By the way, this unit recently received an Order for a special picket, in which the men were informed that their dress would be "waist belts." Nothing more? Germany is not Central Africa, and if the "red-caps" met the picket we fear there might have been trouble.

**Smokes**:—In the early days we sent tons of cigarettes to our brave fellows, and others were issued as rations—to make the boys think that a nation full of gratitude was looking after them. There are no cigarette rations now in Germany, and the soldiers have to buy and smoke the German muck—and it *is* muck. By the way, we have many inquiries from beyond asking what becomes of the Tommies' cigarettes subscribed for by the public?

**Our Mean Methods**:—We have written about the numerous men who are doing duty much above their rank without pay; now we have a grouse from officers, especially those in the R.E.s. with the Russian Expeditionary Force. Captains are doing Colonels' jobs, Second Lieutenants are acting as Captains, without the pay of the rank, and so on. Thus do we do the thing cheaply.

**Victimising Them**:—The other day, at the War Hospital, Dundee, two or three men were found guilty of some lapse, being convicted on the evidence of a sergeant, accepted in preference to that of two other sergeants, three corporals, and a bombardier. The delinquents were punished—also thirty-nine patients who had nothing to do with the matter. This system is unfortunately common.

## "JACK."

**The Poor Middy**:—The pay of all ranks and ratings in the Royal Navy and Reserves has been raised, but the midshipmen have been omitted. We should like to know why, as they are hard-working and very willing little chaps, whose pay scarcely keeps them in cigarettes.

**Economy Gone Mad**:—There are trawler crews at Devonport and elsewhere who are supposed to be sweeping, but are doing nothing. They have their own boats and trading gear, which are rotting, whilst the public are without fish! Some ass is blundering in this matter, like the other fellow who—it is absolutely true—sent a cargo of sand from England to Egypt for the purpose of filling sandbags!

**Left**:—Many temporary R.N.R. Officers foolishly signed the special Admiralty Article T.124.Z., unwittingly cutting themselves off from the privileges and financial status of deck officer. They also appear to have been bilked out of promotion.

**Hard Lines**:—The prize bounty for the sinking of the *Breslau* has been granted to the destroyers and the aircraft that patrolled in the vicinity where she went down, but the minelayer which laid the fatal mines has received nothing—which seems a bit unfair. Something might be said about the recently announced officers' gratuities, too. It is scarcely fair that they should receive only about half the amount granted to discharged labourers.

**For Demobilisation**:—Early in December an Order was issued that any man who did not wish to volunteer for minesweeping could give his name in to be relieved, and we should like to know how many of the applications have been acceded to.

## "THE SILVER BADGERS."

*Secretaries of discharged sailors' and soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or official information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."*

**Poor Kids**!—There are a number of Silver Badgers who are undergoing treatment in the Infirmary at Peterborough. They are allowed to smoke only half an hour each day, being threatened with the kick out if they light up at any other time. They are not allowed to whistle, sing, or otherwise to make pleasure out of pain. We are unchristianlike enough to wish that the martinet who framed the rules had been out, and been particularly badly wounded.

**Sir Edward, Please Note**:—The Manager of the Clogher Valley Railway had a vacancy for a porter, and Pte. Matthew McDowell applied. Matt was a member of Sir Edward Carson's "Ulster Army," and he has had one brother killed and another wounded, he himself having been wounded three times. He was turned down for the position, which was given to an unmarried man of about twenty-five, who had already a good job as a postman. No doubt Sir Edward Carson will look into this matter.

**The G.W.R. Once More**:—Sapper Fessey left the Great Western in 1915, and has been with the Colours ever since. He wrote to Mr. G. J. Churchward, Loco. and Carriage Department, Swindon, asking to be reinstated as a fireman, and received the following curt reply: "Sir,—With reference to your application dated 1st inst., I am unable to offer you re-employment upon the foot-plate." It looks as though the Railway Operating Division in France and elsewhere are not wanted, and that their applications for demobilisation will certainly be turned down if the Railway Companies have anything to do with it.

**A Bit from Brighton**:—Can it be true that the Brighton and Hove General Gas Company have turned away Silver Badgers who were employed by them before they joined the Army, and are retaining Police pensioners and others?

# RACING NOTES AND ANTICIPATIONS.

*By "THE SQUIRE."*

**Prospects and Selections for Sandown Park and Gatwick.**

After the experience of the past three weeks, one almost hesitates to predict the holding of this week's fixtures, which are for Sandown on Tuesday and Wednesday and Gatwick on Thursday and Friday. At the time of writing, however, a thaw has set in, but I am afraid the frost has got very deep into the ground, and, although hoping for the best, I should not be greatly surprised if the Sandown Park fixture—which, by the way, is taking over the Hurst Park programme—had to go by the board, and we did not make a fresh start till Gatwick. In any case, the fields for the first two days will of necessity be limited, owing to the stoppage of work, and it is with no great confidence that I attempt to deal with the programme.

I must, however, call attention to some remarkable curiosities of handicapping between the two meetings. For instance, in the Teddington Hurdle Race Mr. Lee asks CAROL SINGER to give old SUBMIT no more than 7 lbs., whereas I am perfectly certain that 21 lbs. would not bring them together. This view is evidently shared by Mr. Dawkins, the Sandown Park handicapper, who sets CANUTE the task of conceding nearly a stone to Mr. Coleman's old horse. That is to say, Mr. Dawkins puts CANUTE at 7 lbs. in front of CAROL SINGER—yet CAROL SINGER beat Mr. Bottomley's horse by eight lengths at even weights when they last met! Surely such discrepancies in official handicapping should not occur.

Now, on the assumption that we shall race, let me endeavour to indicate a few winners.

### SANDOWN.

TUESDAY.

Teddington Hurdle Race, CAROL SINGER or WRECKER.
Weir Steeplechase, ABAKUR or SIR PERCY.
Walton Steeplechase, VERMOUTH.
Richmond Hurdle Race, EVAN.
Hampton Hurdle Race, IVANHOE.
Novices' Steeplechase, BERNERAY.

WEDNESDAY.

Ditton Steeplechase, THE LAST.
Surbiton Hurdle Race, TOADSTONE or CANUTE.
Thames Steeplechase, THE KNOCKS.
Palace Hurdle Race, DIAZ.
February Steeplechase, BELL TOLL.
Molesey Hurdle Race, DORNOCH.

### GATWICK.

THURSDAY.

Tinsley Hurdle Race, CANUTE.
Stewards' Steeplechase, MASK OFF or ABAKUR.
Wickham Hurdle Race, CAROL SINGER or IVINGTON.
Tantivy Steeplechase, CON CREGAN or WATERGRUEL.
Cotland Steeplechase, WAVERTREE.
Four-Year Hurdle Race, STARR.

FRIDAY.

Ockley Hurdle Race, MR. BOTTOMLEY'S SELECTED.
Leatherhead Steeplechase, MR. BOTTOMLEY'S SELECTED.
Wickham Hurdle (Class 1), CORYDON.
Cotland Steeplechase, (Class 2), IRON BEDSTEAD.
Crawley Steeplechase, CAPTAIN DREYFUS.
Croydon Hurdle Race, STAINTON.

# PRINTER'S PIE.

*(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")*

PHILLIPS' PATENTS, LTD. (testimonial *re* rubber soles):—
"I have worn NOTHING ELSE for the past six months."

"BRISTOL EVENING NEWS" (War Office advertisement):—
"Leave will be granted as generously as possible to men in the Armies of Occupation. Those in the Demobilisable will probably be USED FOR A MATERNITY HOME OF SPECIAL URGENCY."

"BROOKLYN (N.Y.) DAILY EAGLE" (advertisement):—
"Lost . . . Pair of TROUSERS, GOING FROM FLATBUSH AV. DOWN 7TH TO ST. JOHN'S PLACE."

"BRDFORD RECORD" (advertisement):—
"Sign Writer and Embosser reqd. by provincial firm of SHOPLIFTERS."

"EVENING NEWS":—
"The following are some alternative routes which could be used by people going home this evening from the City or West End:—Clapham Common—BY ELEPHANT, trams and 'buses."

"SHEFFIELD DAILY TELEGRAPH" (advertisement):—
"Next Week:—The New Farce, 'NOTHING BUT THE BOX OFFICE OPEN AT 9.30.'"

"DAILY NEWS AND LEADER" (advertisement):—
"Are You Deaf? Test the new 12-TON —— Earphone."

"MONTREAL WEEKLY HERALD":—
"The police are trying to find out whether Pete Dishkent BLEW HIS OWN BRAINS OUT OR COMMITTED SUICIDE."

# THE RELIEF OF CHILBLAINS

**Mother will find Milton an immediate relief and certain cure for Chilblains and a wonderful aid in preventing and in relieving Coughs, Colds, Sore Throat and Catarrh**

The Medical world has long sought a perfect and powerful antiseptic that should be non-poisonous, non-caustic, and so perfectly safe that it could be used for many purposes for which ordinary antiseptics cannot be used

The discovery of Milton permits the application of this great medical property to the prevention and relief of winter diseases by gargling, snuffing or direct application

Milton is priceless as a mouth-wash and dentifrice

***Full directions are given in a little booklet accompanying each bottle***

**MILTON is sold in 1/3 and 2/6 Bottles**

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# LONDON'S NEW PERIL.

**IN grievous addition to the heavy War Debt, are the ratepayers of London to be oppressed by vastly increased rates?**

The same groups of extreme Labour men who, by Bolshevist methods, are paralysing our Public Services and National Industries as the first step to revolt, are scheming to capture the Government of London at the County Council Election on March 6th next.

Their programme involves the most profligate expenditure on an unparalleled scale. Bolshevist to the finger tips, they demand the socialisation of London's great undertakings, with an outlay of hundreds of millions sterling, and a rigorous and perpetual control of the lives, needs, and purchases of her citizens. Indeed, every citizen is to be "socialised" as well.

Haven't you had enough of Government Control?

In these days, with the warning of the Petrograd catastrophe actually accomplished, it is suicidal to assume that because a scheme is fantastic and lunatic it will not find support. The large number of London's Labour-Socialist (Bolshevist) Candidates must be taken seriously and soundly defeated. By a vigorous campaign for sane methods in local Government their assault must be overwhelmed.

Every Londoner who values solvency and sanity should either work or financially assist the London Municipal Society which, by its organisation, has secured the return of the Municipal Reform Candidates at the past three elections. The Labour-Socialist Party are appealing for a fund of £10,000. Prompt payment of a premium of insurance against the perils from Bolshevist Extremists will make London Local Government safe for three years and secure a sound, practical administration by practical men and women.

Cheques should be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer, and crossed "London County, Westminster and Parr's Bank, 1, Cavendish Square, W.1." and addressed to Sir Richard Robinson, 1, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

**London Municipal Society *for the* Promotion of Municipal Reform.**

*Chairman*—SIR HENRY P. HARRIS, K.B.E., M.P.
*Hon. Treasurer*—SIR RICHARD ROBINSON, D.L., J.P.
*Secretary*—W. C. TOWLER.


***£1- for nothing—see "John Bull's" insurance offer on page 16.***

# "John Bull's" Letter Bag.

*[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 92, Long Acre, W.C.2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.*

MRS. M. P. (Liscard) wants to know why such men as us are not made Prime Ministers. Probably because we are too prime.

H. B. W. (Northampton).—"Your Post Bag is as laughable as *Punch*." Yet we never try to be gloomy in it.

L.-CPL. F.O'R. (Amesbury).—"I always liked you, but now I love you." Wrong sex.

"ERMITE DE L'ILE."—We are interested in what you tell us, but when you talk about "our Teutonic Court" you are barking up the wrong tree.

C. S. (Ireland).—No one is really "helpless to help" where kindness to animals is concerned. Rest assured we shall do all in our power to ensure decent treatment for "the dumb brave."

"A Y.M.C.A. SEC." (King's Lynn).—Sorry you disagree with us about those Little Village Huts, but we stick to our objections to asking the public for 6 or 8 milligns to provide them.

J. G. (Paisley).—You must keep worrying the Post Office till you get the money for the irregularly issued postal orders. They would not pay it to us if we asked them to; beastly suspicious people, the P.O.

F. S. S. (Transvaal).—Funny thing that while you invite us to "save Rhodesia from the Union," other readers want us to do the exact opposite. What a world!

A. J. N. (Dublin).—Glad you admired our "poke in the ribs" for the Chancellor of the Exchequer—if, indeed, our stately remonstrance can be described in such a homely phrase.

E. M. C. (Harehills) has "noticed a great number of men getting the title of O.B.E., and can't understand why." He says his wife calls it the Order of the Blind Eye. We wink the other eye.

W. J. C. (London) received four different sets of requests from the Ministry of Pensions to support the King's Fund, each consisting of several sheets of paper and envelopes, though he has already subscribed. Government wastes while others want.

"TOMATO" (Lesmahago).—"Did British airmen drop bombs on Germany in 1914, before the German's bombed Britain?" No. Germany started that trick. And learned to regret it.

"BROKEN DOWN OLD SOLDIER."—"Please run a 'Daily' JOHN. We all want it." One or two other little jobs to polish off first. Have passed your "bob" to our Fund.

W. M. (Peckham).—We note your arguments for the Second Ballot. Not much occasion for it in South Hackney.

E. P. (Liverpool).—"Thieving from the widows and children of real men who have made the supreme sacrifice to save the skins of the profiteers"—not a bad definition of the Great Food Ramp.

N. S. F. P. A. (London, E.C.).—Pamphlet on "7,500,000,000 Fish Dinners a Year" received. What about the fish suppers?

"SAPPER" (Hitchin).—"Do barmaids eat their young?" That is an ancient joke (of sorts). One might equally well ask, Do sappers kill their grandmothers?

A. Y. (Goole).—"In war I have been badly banged; I'd like to see the Kaiser hanged." We'd like to hang him.

"St. BLUSHER" (Manchester).—Have already printed our opinion of Dean, St. Anne's-on-Sea, who says he will cure you of blushing for 17s. 6d. He won't even blush for shame.

J. A. N. (Bristol).—Want to know if the Court has power to make a Separation Order "after the man is dead"? The tipstaff would have a warm job in serving it on him.

A. S. (Old Kent Road).—After mine-sweeping in the North Sea, told at City Halls, Westminster, "too old at 40"? It may be no consolation to you, but some fools don't know a good man when they see one.

"PROFESSIONAL ORGANIST" (Romsey).—Afraid you cannot have the use of our columns for "A letter to the Bishop," but the Post Office will do the trick for you at three-halfpence a time.

H. W. R. (West Southbourne).—"Don't you like Bournemouth?" That depends. It always strikes us as a picturesque compromise between a sanatorium and a cemetery.

"EX-CORPORAL." (Middlesbrough).—After your Army experience, you certainly ought not to be troubled with police inquiries. Perhaps they would cool off if you sauced them a bit.

J. S. (Finsbury, E.C.).—With great respect, we cannot believe that you are being "sloly murdered." Have another look at yourself and make certain.

G. W. S. (Grantham).—Glad to hear it was the ex-soldier's *only* grievance that he could not buy a bottle of whisky. Let us hope by this time he has quenched his thirst by instalments.

"CURED" (Boscombe).—It was a fraud, certainly, but you could hardly expect a real platinum ring set with precious stones for 17s. 6d. Better call at the dentist's and get your eye-teeth pulled through.

J. R. (Camborne).—The expenses of the Royal Household, including their Majesties' Privy Purse, amount to £470,000 per annum, but the sum contributed towards this by any individual workman would not be sufficient to pay for the froth on a glass of beer.

W. T. (Merton).—"What religion is the People of Germany?" Devil Worship. "Is the Church of England Roman Catholic or not?" Not: but some of it would very much like to be.

CPL. P. (B.E.F.).—No wonder the lads in France are angry at story of Hun prisoners on strike here. We would give them *strike!*

P. M. (Ayr).—We note that, as you are continually moving from town to town, you are unable to place an order for the regular delivery of JOHN BULL under our Free Fire Insurance Scheme. You may forward a Coupon each week from the current issue, writing the words "Weekly Coupon" in the space provided for the newsagent's name and address.

W. J. R. (Glasgow).—To charge 1s. for a bit of 1914 ribbon stuck on a 4d. brooch is an attempt to rook Old Contemptibles of 14 bawbees.

"A PATRIOT" (Blackpool).—"The pickled remains of the Princess Amen La, whose sarcophagus brings death to all who look at it, is in the cellar at the British Museum. Please agitate about getting rid of it." We would not agitate an eyelash if Her Royal Highness were curried as well as pickled.

MRS. I. B. (Portsmouth).—Don't mind the sarcastic verses which the men are handing round apropos of the discharged women. You've done your bit, all of you.

MRS. F. (Liverpool) says it was three months before a dress stand for which she paid in advance was delivered by Clark's Dress Stand Co., and then only on threat of exposure in JOHN BULL.

C. F. (Westcliff).—Southend has whacked 1s. 6d. a year more on your allotment rent. Our heart bleeds for you, but surely you can do your own kicking? We really *are* busy.

"FAIRPLAY" (Stratford).—Why worry because "titled ladies" are entering for the Beauty Competition? Peerless beauty will hold its own.

"WILL TO WIN" (Liverpool).—All we can make out of your three-page letter is that you do not approve of President Wilson, and that you are suffering with "wax in the ears." Perhaps if you could get rid of the ear trouble, you wouldn't be so waxy with Wilson.

R. S. (Belfast).—"Who lifted the British Fleet?" Wasn't aware it had been pinched—except, perhaps, in the matter of leave.

A. E. C. (Forest Gate).—Sinn Fein should be pronounced "Shin fane." But our opinion of it is unpronouncable.

MRS. L. (Bruce Grove).—"I had a cup of tea. My nose went quite red." Sure you didn't have a drop of something stiff in it, old dear?

KITTY R. ("Fireside").—Seems to us the wife with big grey eyes is carrying on with a man with blue eyes. One of these days they may turn black, if he doesn't keep them open.

MRS. T. (Ramsbottom).—Your inquiry about "out-of-work weavers waiting for warps" has worried us considerably, and at the moment we can only say that while waiting for warps they should watch their woofs.

G. G. (Golders Green).—We have often exposed the "Competition" watch ramp run by Williams and Lloyd at 89, Cornwallis Road, Upper Holloway, London, N., who flourish on the cash extracted from the pockets of fools.

J. K. (Inverkeithing).—Your proposal that the Government should offer £50,000 for "the elucidation of the Kitchener mystery" seems to assume that they want it cleared up. What makes you think so?

"PATIENT" thinks the war hospital in which he is is "worse than a prison." But even in prison they may at times object to guests playing the piano.

"INTERESTED". (Coventry).—"The Squire's" Racing Selections are obtainable in the London edition of JOHN BULL every Wednesday, and the country edition every Thursday. That is the best we can do at the present.

PTE. Z. D. D. (Curragh).—We have every respect for a black man who has fought for the Flag, and have often said he is entitled to the rights of a British citizen all the while he conducts himself as one.

DIAMOND RING.—Will the finder of a small single-stone diamond ring, with claw setting, probably lost in Long Acre, return same to J. T. M., 93, Long Acre? A reward of £5 will be paid.

"CANNOCK."—"He will not let the room for a Tradesmen's Dance because dancing is not religious." Refer him to David (the other one, who danced before Saul).

MRS. MARY WHITFIELD WRIGLEY (35, Adelaide Street, Todmorden).—Can quite understand your pleasure at receiving the cheque for the £1,000 "Bullet" prize—a very handsome reward even for many years "of trying.

"PAY UP" (Leicester).—"Their answer is 'No coal until old bill settled.'" Sorry; but some of us can't get coal *when* the old bill is settled.

"EXPERIENCE" (Glasgow) objects to discharged munition workers having 25s. a week, when a soldier's widow and two children are expected to live on 23s. a week. Governments always give soldiers' widows as little as possible.

MRS. J. P. (Cudworth).—Bitter because the Customs pinched the sugar sent by your daughter in Canada? You cry "May it choke them!" But it is all "Dora's" fault, so we'll hope it makes her bilious.

F. D. (Harlesden).—Thanks for letter and particulars, although we cannot quite see that you have "cut a long story short." If so, it must have been a monster when you started.

MRS. B. (Norwich).—"If you hold the new 10s. notes end way, with King's head down in left hand, you will find the head of the Kaiser." But we can't hold the notes; they go.

*(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)*

A WORD ABOUT

**THE JOHN BULL PEN.**

Dear Sir, *H.M.S. Barham,*

I have the greate t pleasure in informing you that your pen is without the slightest doubt, far superior to anything in the Fountain Pen line that I've ever run across, although I've got two others which cost Four times the amount yours are priced at.

Very faithfully Yours

H. W. Walker.

**"JOHN BULL" Pen Coupon. Value 2d.**

By sending this Coupon with P.O. for 3s. and 1 d. stamps for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a "John Bull" Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen, STANDARD MODEL. Additional Coupons up to 6 from "John Bull" from this date may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 2d. off the price. Thus, you may send 7 coupons, and P.O. for 2s. only, and 1 d. stamps for postage.

**DE LUXE MODEL, 1s. Extra.**

Address, Pen Dept., JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. *(Feb. 22nd, 1919.)*

P.O.'s should be made payable to John Bull, Ltd., and crossed & Co.

*N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.*

# The Guarantors of Peace

UNTIL the League of Nations comes into being, Peace must be guaranteed by the embattled might of the Allied and Associated Powers. The British Empire, which flung all its resources into the fight for civilisation, must take its share in preserving what has already been won. Unless Peace is to be jeopardised, the Armies of Occupation and the Royal Air Force of Occupation must be maintained at the strength fixed by the Military Chiefs, whose genius enabled the valour of the Allied Forces to overthrow the savage menace of German militarism. Until Peace has been ratified, the British Armies and the Royal Air Force cannot be placed on an after-the-war footing. The Armies of the future depend upon the Treaties now in course of preparation.

### Strength of the Armies.

In fixing the strength of the Armies of Occupation, three considerations had to be taken into account:—

(1) The Armies must be strong enough to exact from Germany, Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria the just terms which the Allies demand.

(2) We must bear our share with our French, Italian and American Allies in providing the men.

(3) Our Armies must be composed in the first instance—to quote the words of the Secretary of State for War—"only from those who did not enlist before January 1, 1916, who are not over 37 years of age and have not more than two wound stripes. If any one has to stay it must be those who are not the oldest, not those who came the earliest, not those who have suffered the most."

The British Armies of Occupation will number 900,000, or about one-fourth of the number of men that were serving when the armistice came.

**It must be a strong, compact, contented, well-disciplined Force. The men will receive weekly bonuses in addition to their ordinary pay.**

**ARMIES OF OCCUPATION.**

*Weekly Bonuses.*

| | Per week. £ s. d. |
|---|---|
| Boys | 0 5 3 |
| Privates and men of equivalent rank | 0 10 6 |
| Paid Lance-Corporal, Lance-Bombardier, 2nd Corporal, Bombardier Corporal | 0 12 3 |
| Paid Lance-Sergeant, Sergeant, Corporal of Horse | 0 14 0 |
| Staff-Sergeant, Colour-Sergeant, Company Quarter-Master-Sergeant, Warrant Officer (Class 2), and soldiers of corresponding rank | 0 17 6 |
| Warrant Officer (Class 1) | 1 1 0 |
| Boys as defined in paragraph 8 of the Schedule to the Warrant of December 17, 1918 | 0 5 3 |

Leave for the men of the Armies of Occupation will be granted on as generous a scale as the exigencies of the military situation permit.

The Men of Mons and Neuve Chapelle, who upheld the glory of Britain and earned for themselves undying fame, are entitled to hand down to those younger in the service the completion of the task which they so nobly undertook.

### Youth's Golden Opportunity.

The men who go to the Rhine will have the enviable opportunity of seeing the historic battlefields of France and Flanders, of becoming acquainted with the towns and villages in the devastated areas whose names will live in history, associated for ever with the story of Britain's greatest fight for World Liberty. This experience will be an education in itself, for the poetry, the art and the literature of the world for years to come will alike be inspired by the epic deeds of heroism, suffering, sacrifice and triumph enacted there. The dream of youth has ever been to see the Fields of Mars and to follow the flag into the enemy country.

**R.A.F. OF OCCUPATION.**

*Weekly Bonuses.*

| | Per week. £ s. d. |
|---|---|
| Aircraftman (Class 2) | 0 10 6 |
| Aircraftman (Class 1) | 0 11 1 |
| Leading Aircraftman | 0 11 8 |
| Corporal | 0 12 3 |
| Sergeant | 0 14 0 |
| Flight-Sergeant | 0 15 9 |
| Warrant Officer (Class 2) | 0 17 6 |
| Warrant Officer (Class 1) | 1 1 0 |
| Cadet—on appropriate rate of his rank | |
| Flight Cadets | 1 1 0 |

**The Youth of To-day is having his Golden Opportunity.**

Of all the branches of the Armies of Occupation, none offers so attractive a prospect to the adventurous spirit of youth as the Royal Air Force, which during the war multiplied itself a thousandfold. To the youth with no settled future there can be no better opportunity for a career.

*Have YOU accepted "John Bull's" Free Gift—see insurance offer on page 16.*

2 PRIZE £50
BULLETS' 1ST PRIZE £500
3 PRIZE £10
10 PRIZES OF £5
10 PRIZES OF £2 10
25 PRIZES OF 10/-
200 PRIZES OF 5/-
1000 PRIZES OF 2/6
3000 TARGET PRIZES
- FOR THIS WEEK ONLY -

## HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the thirty-two examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the examples chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. These examples will guide you: Example:—TROUBLE BREWING. Bullet:—UNLESS BOLSHEVISM IS CHECKED. Example:—WON'T WASH. Bullet:—LITTLE WILLIE'S EXCUSES. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent. Result of this competition will be found in our issue dated March 15th.

### LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 321.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| LABOUR DEMANDS | WHAT WILSON SAYS | BOTTOMLEY'S ADVICE | WHEN PEACE IS SIGNED |
| MASTER AND MAN | BEFORE LONG | THE ONLY WAY | GERMANY MUST |
| JOHN BULL | WASTE OF TIME | PUSH AND GO | WON'T WASH |
| GETTING HOME TOGETHER | NOBODY WANTS | KNOWING FATHER | BREACH OF PROMISE |
| RISKY PROPOSAL | WAKING THEM UP | LIKE A MAN | TRUTH WILL OUT |
| ROAD TO RUIN | IMPOSSIBLE | BITTER MEMORIES | A TIGHT SQUEEZE |
| SOLD AGAIN | A HOLY TERROR | MY BEST PAL | TROUBLE BREWING |
| BRITISH MADE | ON STRIKE | PROMISING GIRL | THE KAISER'S BED |

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, Feb. 27th
Example____
Bullet____
Example____
Bullet____
(321) P.O. No.____ Signed____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. Address____
If 1 coupon is used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.

☞ IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, Feb. 27th
Example____
Bullet____
Example____
Bullet____
(321) P.O. No.____ Signed____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. Address____
If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS," No 321, "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, Feb. 27th
Example____
Bullet____
Example____
Bullet____
(321) P.O. No.____ Signed____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. Address____
If 3 coupons are used P.O. for 1/6 must be sent.

Write Competition in top left-hand corner of the envelope.

No.____ Closing Date Thursday, Feb. 27th
Example____
Bullet____
Example____
Bullet____
(321) P.O. No.____ Signed____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. Address____
If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 2/- must be sent.

### Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 322.

BOTTOMLEY'S BUSINESS—PAYING TOO MUCH—SOFT SOAP—MAKING MISCHIEF—CALLING FOR ORDER—GETTING DUSTY—PROVOKING THOUGHT—A HARD TASK—WAITING—THE NEW WORLD—CAPITAL AND LABOUR—CAN'T STAND—NAUGHTY BOY—WONDERFUL WOMAN—WHY NOT?—THE RIGHT STUFF—AFTER THE HONEYMOON—MOST DIFFICULT TO—FINDING A JOB—PULLING TOGETHER.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, MARCH 6th.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number **322,** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets," **No. 322,** "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the thirty-two examples for Competition 321.

**List of 10s. Prize-winners in "Bullets" Competition 318 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and other Prize-winners can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."**

## Result of 318th "Bullets" Competition.

### FIRST PRIZE OF £200:

**Mr. CECIL J. VICK,**
**"Beaconsfield Club,"**
**Reading.**

Example:—SHOCKING DELAY.
Bullet:—"CONSIDERING" GERMAN ATROCITIES.

### SECOND PRIZE OF £20:

**Mr. EGBERT W. BATCHELOR,**
**132, Arundel Street, Portsmouth.**

Example:—MORE PAY.
Bullet:—OTHERWISE A "POOR" ARMY.

### THIRD PRIZE OF £10:

**Mr. J. W. RICHARDS,**
**175, Greenford Lane, West Bromwich.**

Example:—WORKING SHORTER HOURS
Bullet:—NOBODY—MAD GERMANY WON.

### 20 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

Mrs. E. M. MARTINSON, 2, St. Georges' Avenue, Ealing, W: DILLY AND DALLY—TRYING US—NOT KAISER.
Mr. W. GEARY, 71, Saxon Street, Wrexham, N.W.: WAIT AND SEE—WON'T "DO IN" GERMANY.
Mr. T. CHALLENDER, 124, Restalrig Road, Edinburgh: THE RIGHT MAN—"CLEAR ROAD" FOR HIM.
Mr. A. L. KIDD, Craigend Hospital, Lilierton, Midlothian: TOMMY'S GRIEVANCE—WORKER'S A FIGHTER NOW.
Mr. E. H. BUDGETT, 1, Bryn Road, Glyncorrwg, Port Talbot: THE RIGHT MAN—"STANDS OUT" IN DISPUTE.
Mr. H. Hamilton, 55, Mervue Street, Belfast: THE KAISER'S GUILT—AND WILSON'S INNOCENCE—SHOCKING.
Mr. D. GRAHAM, Norelands, Minster, Sheerness. LEAGUE OF NATIONS—GAMBLING AWAY TOMMY'S WINNINGS.
Mr. J. P. MOWBRAY, 5, William Street, Dunfermline: IN RUSSIA—NO "OCCUPATION" PERMANENT.
Mr. F. MEEK, Bellvue House, Alfred Hill, Bristol: BOTTOMLEY EXPECTS—PEACE FORCED—THEN PACE.
Miss ALICE GRAY, Quarter, Hamilton, N.B.: DILLY AND DALLY—ARCHITECTS FOR HEROES' HOMES.
Mrs. M. E. JOHNSON, 2, The Grove, Weston Park, Bath: IN RUSSIA—MUNITIONS "WENT FOR NOTHING."
Mr. G. DEAN, 23, High Street, Tonbridge, Kent: ENGINEERING TROUBLE—GOVERNMENT WITH "UNSKILLED" HAND.
Mrs. E. RAMSAY, 12, Dyke Street, Ipswich: IN RUSSIA—GOVERNMENT WISH IRELAND WAS.
Mr. G. H. F. BEEF, c.o. Mr. Purchase, High St., Stourbridge: IN RUSSIA—PLENTY OF "SHUTTERS UP."
Mr. C. H. SAVORY, c.o. Mrs. Hanson, 37, Marshall Street, Holbeck, Leeds: WAIT AND SEE—AMERICA'S FUTURE "ON WATER."
Mr. H. LEESE, Yew Tree Cottage, Tittensor, Stoke-on-Trent: GERMAN BOLSHEVISTS—"THREATENING"—NO GOOD.
Miss MARJORIE MAY, 60, Ayresome St., Middlesbrough: THE RIGHT MAN—WAR MADE OUR PRINCE.
Mr. JONATHAN SMITH, 11, Owen's St., Rhos, nr, Wrexham: MORE PAY—DEMAND MUSTN'T EXCEED SUPPLY.
Mr. THOMAS MOND, Waverton, Chester: FULL UP—WITH PENITENCE—NO GERMAN.
Mr. GEORGE Y. BOULTON, 75, Blythe Vale, Catford, London, S.E.6: WHAT WILSON WANTS—ONLY WEAPON—THE VOTE.
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)

**BULLETS RULES.**

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merits, the test being clearness, aptness and originality. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. All four coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ____ and Co. ____ Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner.

4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.

5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, an acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.


THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

*The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.*

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

| | |
|---|---|
| For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to .. .. .. | £200 |
| In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home | £200 |
| For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye .. .. .. | £200 |
| For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye .. | £100 |
| Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to .. | £10 |
| In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks.. | £1 per week |

ORDER FORM
TO BE RETAINED BY NEWSAGENT.

To .....
Newsagent.
Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice

Signed .....

Address .....

February 22, 1919.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept., 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your newsagent will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM!

Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with—

.....Newsagent, of .....

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee .....

Address .....

Signature of Insured .....
Mr., Mrs., or Miss
Home Address .....

Feb. 22, 1919.

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 1d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

# No More Facial Eczema

Facial eczema is irritating, disfiguring, makes life a misery, and is a bar to social and business success. Antexema will conquer eczema in any part of the body. The very first touch gives ease and comfort and soon your trouble is ended. Just the same with face spots, bad hands, bad legs, chilblains, and all other sore, irritated or blotchy skin conditions — Antexema quickly and thoroughly cures them.

All chemists and stores, also Boots', Harrods', Selfridge's, Whiteley's, Lewis & Burrows', Taylor's Drug Co., Timothy White's, and Parke's supply Antexema at 1s. 3d. and 2s., or post free direct 1s. 6d. and 3s.

## Sign this Form

Send three penny stamps for booklet, "Skin Troubles," and we will also forward a Free Trial of Antexema and of Antexema Granules, the famous blood purifier. Send to-day to Antexema, Castle Laboratory, London, N.W.1.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

*John Bull*, 22/2/19. .....

## GET YOUR LINO

CATESBYS are the originators of Cork Lino, and, as your good money might as well get the original Lino while you are buying a floor covering, write for patterns and prices of Catesbys Cork Lino before you place your order anywhere. Write to CATESBYS LTD. (Dept. 10), Tottenham Court Road, London, W.1

## FROM 'LINOLAND'

## Foster Clark's

*The Creamiest Custard*

## Cream Custard

## WEAK PEOPLE CATCH COLDS

Some persons have been known to fall into icy water, and never experience the slightest ailment afterwards. Others travelling in a crowded train or sitting at home in a draught, are laid up with a heavy cold, or, worse still, fall victims to influenza.

The difference is all in the bodily condition at the time. When the System is below par, run down, bloodless and nervous, the germs of influenza are quick to seize their opportunity. Remember that when the fever has gone the system remains low and depressed; there is a great difficulty in regaining strength, and the victim is usually unfit for a normal amount of work.

The way to avoid colds, influenza, and all other infections is to keep the health up to the mark, the nerves steady, the digestion in good working order, the veins full of good, red blood. Because they make good rich blood, and so help the body to resist attacks of colds and influenza, thousands have praised Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people.

If you want to be well lose no time; buy Dr. Williams' pink pills from any local dealer to-day, but look for Dr. Williams' name on the package; never accept a substitute.

Invaluable advice on health and keeping fit is contained in the little "Health Guide," which is offered free to readers. Send a post-card for it to Book Dept., 46, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1.

# It takes a very little purse

**to supply a family with the best of cakes, buns and puddings.**

**The economy begins in purchasing a tin of Bird's Egg Substitute; the enjoyment begins with the first of the good old English cakes or puddings you make from the recipe leaflet.**

***Besides a daily saving in expenses, there is a daily treat for the family.***

**Bird's Egg Substitute imparts the richness, flavor and appearance of new laid eggs to cakes, buns and puddings of all kinds. And makes them wonderfully light with no other raising ingredient.**

## Bird's Egg Substitute

**In Packets and Tins with excellent and reliable recipes.**

S.E.63

# Stop—

**small money waste in the Home.**

## "The Amateur Mechanic"

written by skilled craftsmen in simple non-technical language, and practically illustrated by helpful "How-to-do-it pictures."

**SHOWS YOU HOW TO**

make a pair of boots—make ladies' shoes—patch, sole and heel boots—mend windows—frost, bevel and cut glass—join two pieces of iron—make soap at home—install a speaking tube—fit and fix casement and other curtains—mend and clean sewing machines, typewriters, motor-cars, motor cycles, &c.—cure a noisy cistern—cure a smoky chimney—make a garden path—make furniture for the garden, for summer-houses and "out-of-door rooms"—make and mend household furniture—restore and clean old pictures—restore and mend valuable china—make magic lanterns—build boats, canoes, canvas canoes, &c.—build garages, cycle sheds, poultry houses, &c.—do stencil cutting—make draught-proof doors and windows—clean and mend watches, clocks, spectacles, eyeglasses, &c.—stuff animals, birds, &c.—clean fur and dress skins—tar an outhouse—make and set up tents—do gold and silver plating—do fret work in wood and in metals—colour metals—do out-door painting—make washable painting—paint and paper a room—distemper a room—make a mattress—make hot-water proof cement—do sign and ticket writing, &c., &c., &c.

**This is Money Saving Knowledge.**

Mr. CARDWELL, Belfast, writes:—"They are splendid value . . . I cannot explain how pleased I am with the books."

Mr. JAMES MOORE, Gloucester, writes:—"The work is a complete self-instructor: *it quite bears out all you claim for it.*"

SEND for FREE descriptive Booklet showing pages and pictures from "The Amateur Mechanic."

To the WAVERLEY BOOK CO., Ltd.,
7, Old Bailey, London, E.C. 4.

Please send me without charge your Free Illustrated Booklet, containing all particulars as to contents, etc., of "The Amateur Mechanic," also information as to sending the Complete Work for a nominal first payment, the balance to be paid by a few small monthly payments, beginning thirty days after delivery of work.

NAME .....
(Send this Form or a Postcard.)

ADDRESS .....

J. B. N. 1919. .....

## WEAK NERVES.

Health and happiness impossible where nerve weakness exists. My FREE BOOK shows how lassitude, depression, all nerve, stomach or heart weakness, irritability, brain-fag, self-consciousness, etc., may be positively cured, under guarantee. BE EFFICIENT! Stop failing, and become the success you were meant to. Enclose 3 stamps, mention ailment, Dept. J.B. THOMAS INCH, 74 Clarendon Road, Putney, London, S.W.

## BEACON OILSKINS

will keep you dry always. Men's Coats from 20/-, Ladies' from 20/6 Children's from 10/6 (2 year old size). Adults' Sou'westers 2/-. Long Leggings, 5/—all guaranteed against stickiness, leakage or dissatisfaction on money-back methods.

ILLUSTRATED LIST POST FREE

Send Post card now for this Art Booklet of "Weather Comfort" to HARDOUEST, Ltd., 69, Beacon Buildings, SOUTH SHIELDS, England.

## LIVERPOOL VICTORIA FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

Chief Office: St. Andrew Street, London, E.C.4.
INVESTED FUNDS ..... £7,300,000
ANNUAL INCOME ..... £2,500,000
AMOUNT PAID IN WAR CLAIMS NEARLY ..... £700,000

Life and Endowment Insurances at Popular Rates. Our numerous Branch Offices and Agents throughout the Kingdom transact National Health Insurance.

ARTHUR HENRI, Secretary.

## The "BLANCO" Tradition.

For more than a quarter of a century the old British Army "Blanco'd" itself clean and smart. This tradition, like the other worthy ones, holds true in the New Armies of to-day, and it holds because "Blanco" is still the most efficient article for its purpose.

**In these Khaki-days**

## "BLANCO"

**is made in 3 kinds:**

**"WEB-BLANCO"**—a special preparation for cleaning all web-equipment.

**"KHAKI-BLANCO"**—for cleaning khaki-coloured Spats, Sun-helmets, Buckskin Belts, etc. May also be used for web-equipment.

**"BLANCO"** (*the original kind*) for cleaning all *White* equipment.

*WAR OFFICE APPROVAL.*

Sole Manufacturers: JOSEPH PICKERING and SONS, Ltd., Burton Road, SHEFFIELD.

*Sir Lordly Loaf.*

Sir Lordly is the War-loaf Nut,
You'll find him a delicious cut.

## Calders Yeast

CALDERS YEAST CO., LTD., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

**DRAPERY REMNANTS**

Start in the Remnant Trade and make money. No experience required. Stocks of Prints, Coiles, Plettes, Towels, Hosiery, Overalls, Fancy Goods, &c.

**Price list free from Harry H. Clegg,**
(Dept. Q), 96, High Street, Manchester
(Wholesale Only).

*"John Bull's" Great Free Fire Insurance—see page 16.*

# DANGER OF VENEREAL DISEASE.

## VALUE OF EARLY TREATMENT.

*This announcement is issued by the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, a responsible body recognised by the Government: President, Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham. Vice-Presidents, The Bishop of Southwark, Sir Thomas Barlow, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D. Chairman of Propaganda, Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O., F.R.C.S.E. General Secretary, Mrs. A. C. Gotto, O.B.E.*

The following carefully controlled statistics issued by a Medical Inspector of the U.S. Navy, show the immense value of Early Treatment. The subjects had been with strange women, and did not know whether they had contracted disease.

| Hours subsequent to Exposure. | Number of Treatments. | Number of Infections. | Percentage of Infections. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1,180 | 1 | 0.08 |
| 2 | 1,172 | 7 | 0.59 |
| 3 | 521 | 4 | 0.77 |
| 4 | 330 | 2 | 0.61 |
| 5 | 199 | 3 | 1.57 |
| 6 | 321 | 5 | 1.58 |
| 7 | 277 | 6 | 4.27 |
| 8 | 390 | 16 | 4.22 |
| 9 | 283 | 10 | 3.62 |
| 10 | 214 | 11 | 5.14 |
| More than 10 | 216 | 16 | 7.40 |
| Total ... | 5,103 | 81 | 1.58 |

It will be seen that out of those who went for Early (preventive) Treatment within the first hour after taking a risk, only one out of 1,180 developed disease, and that solitary case was cured in two days. The table also shows "the longer one waits, the greater the risk." It is far better not to take the risk at all, but those who succumb to temptation should *immediately* seek medical advice.

Free treatment, under conditions of secrecy, is provided by the Government in most centres. Apply at the out-patients' department of the nearest hospital, or to the local Medical Officer of Health.

*Those who are in any doubt or difficulty should write for information and free literature to N.C.C.V.D., 81, Avenue Chambers, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, marking your envelope "Medical."*

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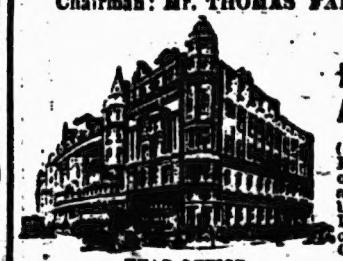

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